Daily Report

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Continued Reportage on OAS General Assembly

Chile's Aylwin Speaks

PY0306163691 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1504 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin has stated that the Organization of American States, OAS, should draw up a new agenda on the major issues for the hemisphere in the 1990's. Aylwin made this statement in his speech to open the 21st OAS General Assembly, which will be continue until 8 June here in Chile.

In the Sessions Hall of the former Congress building in Santiago, the Chilean president said that to update the OAS the organization should draw up an agenda of the major issues for the hemisphere in the 1990's and regulate relations among its members in accordance with the principles of its Charter. The issues on the agenda should be given priority in terms of political attention, energy, and financial resources.

Within this framework, Aylwin said, Chile was happy to hear about the Americas Initiative proposed by the U.S. Government. He noted that the initiative has opened up the possibility of a new strategy in hemispheric relations.

Aylwin also stated that, in addition to the economic issues, this hemispheric agenda for the 1990's should include subjects like drug trafficking, violence, terrorism, and environmental pollution.

Baena Soares Speaks

PY0406002391 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1607 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] Santiago, 3 Jun (EFE)—OAS Secretary General Baena Soares today said that the governments of the Americas have "the duty" to eradicate poverty because it is a factor of "injustice and instability." Soares made these remarks during the opening ceremony of the 21st OAS General Assembly in Santiago, Chile.

"Poverty is a factor of injustice, unhappiness, and instability," Soares said, stressing that the democratic governments have the duty to eradicate that misery because "it is not enough for democracy to be stable and to be able to defend itself from the aggression of a few, democracy must also be able to answer the urgent needs of the people."

The inaugural session, during which Chilean President Patricio Aylwin is scheduled to speak, began with a short speech by Baena Soares. He exalted democracy and the willingness of the governments of the Americas "to consolidate the region's deep political transformation."

The Brazilian diplomat said: "Democracy and development must support each other." He added that in order to consolidate these two concepts it is necessary to overcome "economic and social imbalances and the unequal distribution of opportunities and wealth that isolates broad sectors of society from the benefits of progress."

Soares warned: "The restoration of democracy and the recovery of freedom are not unalterable or irreversible achievements." He said: "Continuous effort is needed to strengthen and consolidate these achievements so that the gains are not ephemeral and the promises are not illusory."

The secretary general said: "The threat against freedom does not exclusively originate in authoritarian temptations," but also in "the chaos and anarchy that could prevail if our populations continue to suffer from the hunger and the diseases that we thought had been eradicated or if the conflicts between brothers continue unchecked."

Soares mentioned the dangers to freedom and democracy that arise from the lack of shelter, jobs, education, and health. He added: "Extreme poverty is the most acute problem and overcoming it is the most urgent task."

Soares mentioned the need "to strengthen the work of the OAS."

He said: "We must not continue to waste time seeking answers to obsolete questions." He asked the members to help to strengthen the OAS and to seek "more consistency between the approval and the implementation of resolutions. [no closing quotation mark as received].

'Difficulties' Beset Opening

PY0406015291 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] The 21st OAS General Assembly began with some difficulties this afternoon in Santiago. Representatives from the Bahamas, Bolivia, the United States, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Canada, Costa Rica, Brazil, Peru, and Mexico had to postpone their speeches since the informal dialogue between foreign ministers was extended because the foreign ministers and delegates of the 24 country members are having difficulty in reaching agreement on mechanisms to protect democracies. There are different and contradictory positions on protection of these democracies. Some nations believe a more radical stand must be adopted and that the foreign ministers must be called to special meetings and consultations when an institutional process is disrupted. Others feel that this will violate the principle of nonintervention.

At the opening session this afternoon, when the Bahamian representative was to speak, the foreign minister [Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma] interrupted the session and explained that a closed session should be held to discuss the mechanisms to protect democracies and to reach agreement and a consensus on how to protect democracies. Since no agreement was

reached, the working group on this had to hold a new session in accordance with the OAS Charter.

Then the delegates spoke and they agreed on the need for peace, social justice, economic development, and protection of these same freely elected systems on the continent.

Inclusion of Cuba Proposed

PY0506024291 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] Two unusual trends prevailed today at the 21st OAS General Assembly in Santiago. On one hand, the issue of Cuba was brought up at the assembly plenum for the first time. On the other hand, release of the document called the Santiago Commitment [Compromiso de Santiago], containing measures and mechanisms to strengthen democracies in the continent, was bogged down and postponed.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus Quesada brought up the issue of Cuba. He stressed the need for Cuba to be reinstated in the continental system. He said:

[Begin Quesada recording] We must admit the Cuban case. A century ago it was one of the last Hispano-American nations fighting to cast off the colonial yoke and victory has crowned its effort.

Costa Rica, which a century ago cooperated somewhat to make the dreams of Jose Marti and Francisco Morazan a reality, feels that the desire for democracy in Cuba must again be the hemisphere's desire. Costa Rica feels that the cause for Cuban democracy must again be the cause of the Americas. But the process that will again lead Cuba to democracy, in addition to being peaceful, must be conducted by and for all Cubans with absolute respect for their right to self-determination.

We want to see Cuba and our Cuban brethren here again, fully complying with the American principles of international rights provided for by the OAS Charter. [end recording]

In a news conference, not in the assembly, Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana also expressed a desire for Cuba's reinstatement to the OAS. Solana also referred to the democracy issue. He said democracy is not conquered or strengthened with either unilateral or multilateral foreign actions. Democracy, however, as well as development, can be weakened by this type of action. Democracy can be influenced by favorable or unfavorable foreign actions; but it can only be built and strengthened from within, by each of these nations, Solana said.

It is appropriate to mention that it was officially announced today that the Santiago Commitment declaration was to be released today, but disagreements among country members have prevented its publication. It will be released tomorrow.

Baena Soares on Declaration

PY0406035291 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Interview with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares by Television Nacional de Chile Anchorman Bernardo de la Maza on the "24 Horas" newscast—live]

[Text] [De la Maza] Good evening, Mr. Baena Soares.

[Baena Soares] Good evening.

[De la Maza] First of all, I would like to ask you what problems you are having with the Santiago declaration, which was supposed to be signed tonight but has not yet been issued.

[Baena Soares] I would not say we are facing any problems. I would say rather that we are readjusting certain positions so the draft resolution can reflect a consensus of all countries.

[De la Maza] Is it true that the disagreement centers on establishment of a mechanism for a collective OAS response to countries that cease to uphold the democratic system of government?

[Baena Soares] I believe there is much more than this issue to be considered. There are many other issues. Of course, we already have those mechanisms established by the OAS Charter. What is important is to achieve a consensus among the different positions held by the member countries. This is what the delegation chiefs and delegates from the many OAS countries are trying to achieve. I believe this is normal in any international meeting.

[De la Maza] In 1990, the world witnessed great changes. The world is now seeking establishment of a new order. In what way do you believe the OAS can help countries of the Americas insert themselves into this new world order?

[Baena Soares] There is much to be done. First, we must be realistic and assert that the OAS is an active international organization. It is not an irrelevant organization in the context of the international system. A perfect example of this is the 21st General Assembly, which is being held right now.

In this assembly, OAS member countries are discussing current problems, subjects that are of great importance for our countries. Based on this, I believe we can increasingly perfect OAS actions. It is always possible to improve things. This is why the foreign ministers are meeting here today.

[De la Maza] One last question, Mr. Baena Soares. The Santiago Declaration will note the importance of democracy as a political system for countries of the Americas. You have said that through social justice we will improve our people's standard of living and thus avoid a possible

disruption of the democratic system. How do you believe the OAS will help consolidate and support democracy in the Americas?

[Baena Soares] This will be done by coordinating the efforts of the different OAS member countries, by responding to the needs of the member countries, and by seeking the indispensable resources needed to promote the development of these member countries. I believe the strengthening of democracy is tied directly to socioeconomic development and to the development of economic ties among our countries. It is directly tied to trade, to the foreign debt, to technology exchange, and to efforts to safeguard the environment.

These are new issues that the OAS member countries are discussing and studying in this assembly. But the OAS cannot only help, it must help. [sentence as heard]

[De la Maza] Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary General, for being here with us tonight on "24 Horas" and for allowing the people in the seven or eight countries that watch us every night via satellite to learn about your thoughts on these issues.

[Baena Soares] Thank you very much.

Chile's Silva Cimma Comments

PY0306031591 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Excerpt] The delegates representing 34 countries who are attending the OAS General Assembly have agreed to sign a declaration supporting the OAS so the organization may, in turn, safeguard the democratic government system.

The so-called informal dialogue between foreign ministers attending the 21st OAS Assembly, which will open tomorrow, started at 1030 in a hotel in downtown Santiago. Today's preliminary meeting is designed to allow the foreign ministers to hold direct meetings in order to discuss subjects of interest to their respective countries. Bilateral meetings were also held, such as the one between Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma and his Argentine counterpart Guido Di Tella.

All delegates agreed that the OAS should be given the necessary tools to safeguard the democratic government system. This issue was discussed at length and a group was appointed to draw up a document, which will be disclosed tomorrow.

[Begin recording] [Silva Cimma] This means that the two main subjects discussed today, one referring to democracy and its defense and the other related to consolidation of OAS, were debated at length and in a positive manner.

[Unidentified reporter] Can OAS contribute to the consolidation of democracy in Latin America?

[Silva Cimma] This is the lengthy document we discussed this afternoon. It will be reviewed tomorrow by a commission of the general secretariat and then disclosed. All OAS member countries are virtually giving the OAS what they want for the organization; that is, a truly active organization that can contribute to the consolidation of democracy.

[Reporter] Minister, how do you mix the principle of democracy with the principle of nonintervention?

[Silva Cimma] They are perfectly harmonious. One of the aspects the document mentions is the principle of nonintervention, which has always been one of the pillars of democracy and the OAS structure.

[Reporter] Has support for the OAS to strengthen democracy been unanimous?

[Silva Cimma] All the agreements were reached unanimously. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Silva Cimma Elected Chairman

PY0406025891 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin today opened the OAS General Assembly. In a speech, Aylwin said the countries of the Americas have the enormous responsibility of consolidating democracy and achieving socioeconomic development.

The opening ceremony was held in the main hall of the former congress building in Santiago. It was attended by delegates to the 21st OAS General Assembly and government, church, and congressional authorities.

Aylwin said Chile has deep ties with the OAS. He added that Chilean democracy has always been a strong supporter of the initiatives that led to establishment of the OAS and of OAS efforts to consolidate peace and promote justice and freedom. Aylwin added that during difficult periods of intolerance and persecution, the OAS has been a noble forum to defend those rights that were violated.

[Begin Aylwin recording] For several years our countries have been devoted to the great task of restoring democracy and reestablishing a coexistence based on freedom and the promotion of human rights. In addition to consolidating this new democratic order, today we also face the challenge of destroying—with determination and proficiency—another great obstacle that undermines the dignity of men: the wall of poverty. [end recording]

Aylwin said that to achieve development, Latin American and Caribbean countries need the aid of developed countries. He stated that Latin American and Caribbean countries are not requesting privileges or charity, but rather equal terms. Aylwin also stated that it is essential to promote integration but this will not be achieved merely through political decisions if there is no economic integration.

[Begin Aylwin recording] Now that democracy has returned to our countries through the people's sovereign will, we are better able to tackle the serious pending problems we have already mentioned and the new challenges raised by today's world. [end recording]

OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares said that this is an assembly of democracy. He added that democracy and development with freedom are the essence of the issues that will be discussed by the session that opens today.

He stated: We must overcome social and economic imbalances and the unjust distribution of opportunities and wealth. He added: Poverty harbors injustice, discontent, and instability.

After the opening ceremony, Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma was elected chairman of the OAS General Assembly being held in Santiago. During the afternoon, the foreign ministers held informal negotiations to seek a consensus on a declaration that seeks to strengthen the OAS and thus enable it to defend the democratic system of government. The task group that started to draft the declaration yesterday continued to meet today.

Bolivia Urges New Talks With Chile

PY0506034891 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jun 91

[Interview with Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde by Television Nacional de Chile Anchorman Bernardo de la Maza on the "24 Horas" newscast—live]

[Text] [De la Maza] Good evening, Mr. Iturralde.

[Iturralde] Good evening, Mr. De la Maza.

[De la Maza] What is reception of the "24 Horas" newscast like in La Paz?

[Iturralde] To be honest, I do not know.

[De la Maza] What a pity.

[Iturralde] But we would be delighted to watch it.

[De la Maza] We are aware that several people watch it using parabolic antennas.

[Iturralde] That is correct.

[De la Maza] Chile and Bolivia have severed diplomatic ties for over 12 years. Do you believe the time has come to resume a direct dialogue at government level?

[Iturralde] Absolutely. We are willing to hold a dialogue at the bilateral level. As you know, we have raised the issue for several years at the OAS and other international forums. But the Chilean Government has said that the sea outlet issue cannot be discussed at the multilateral level. Nevertheless, Bolivia is willing to hold a dialogue with the Chilean Government. I believe, however, that Chile is not interested in holding a bilateral dialogue. Therefore, we will wait and see what happens.

[De la Maza] The information we have is that Chile has always been willing to hold a dialogue at the bilateral level. We hope the meetings being held in Santiago will result in a dialogue. Do you believe establishment of an economic development region along the border shared by Bolivia, Peru, and Chile could help overcome traditional disputes?

[Iturralde] This would be quite extraordinary. But I must explain that when I speak of a dialogue I am referring to an all-encompassing dialogue. We have undoubtedly achieved important progress with regard to Bolivian-Chilean trade issues, but we want to discuss all issues that are of interest to the two countries.

As for development of this region, I do not see why it should not be feasible. We believe it is very important to promote development of this region.

[De la Maza] Do you believe it is possible to achieve rapprochement, an integration, between Chile and Bolivia without achieving a sea outlet for Bolivia?

[Iturralde] I must clearly state that this is an issue of vital importance for Bolivia. It is a claim that we will never renounce. All Bolivians are aware of this. But what I want to stress is that this is an issue that must be discussed with a new, modern mentality, not with an old-fashioned mentality. All factors must be taken into account and we have to consider that important changes are taking place in the international scenario today. Therefore, we have to act accordingly.

[De la Maza] I specifically remember that on 29 September 1990, Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora said new Bolivian generations should cease to address Bolivia's landlocked situation with a 19th-century mentality and view it with a new, modern mentality. This is what you are reasserting now. What does this mean specifically? What can Chileans expect in this regard?

[Iturralde] Chileans should expect that Bolivia needs to recover its status as a coastal country. I would like to tell Chileans....

[De la Maza, interrupting] But we are back to square one?

[Iturralde] No, not necessarily. Many issues have been discussed previously and handled in a completely different manner. When we speak of a dialogue we are not saying we will establish any set rules. We want to hold an open, new dialogue that will encompass all the new ideas resulting from this new mentality.

[De la Maza] I frankly believe you uphold a positive position. Therefore, I believe that the future of Chilean-Bolivian ties should be viewed with optimism.

[Iturralde] I must say that I am very happy. I am particularly happy about being able to visit my friend,

Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma with whom we have held informal dialogues during the Rio Group meetings, UN meetings, etc. and during which we discussed several bilateral issues.

[De la Maza] Thank you very much for being with us here tonight.

[Iturralde] Thank you.

[De la Maza] And I hope you get a parabolic antenna in La Paz.

[Iturralde] Yes, I will do that. Thank you very much.

Bolivian Sea Outlet on Agenda

PY0406152091 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] Santiago, 3 Jun (AFP-NA)—Bolivia today called for decisive OAS mediation to allow it an outlet to the Pacific Ocean through Chilean territory.

In his official speech to the 21st OAS General Assembly, Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde said the OAS should serve as "a qualified political forum for all kinds of dialogue" which is capable of "smoothing out disputes, narrowing differences, and emphasizing common points." Minister Iturralde made these comments before mentioning the Bolivian Government's claim to a sea outlet.

Bolivia's landlocked situation is part of Point 18 on the agenda of the 21st Assembly, which is being attended by delegations from 34 member countries.

The Chilean Foreign Ministry believes the issue should be discussed bilaterally and that the OAS has no authority to mediate the issue or make any decision on it.

Chile has responded to the Bolivian Government pressure for a sea outlet by proposing plans for economic integration and cooperation which allow the establishment of regional development centers, even though Bolivia will have no coastline.

As a result of successive crises, diplomatic relations between Chile and Bolivia have been suspended since 1978, when negotiations to establish a sea outlet for Bolivia through Chilean territory failed.

Bolivia has been including the topic on the agenda of the OAS meetings every year since 1979, and the OAS has always urged the two countries to come to an agreement on the issue. In 1990, however, the topic was not included on the agenda of the OAS meeting in Asuncion. This was considered a victory for the Chilean Foreign Ministry.

Peru's Torres on Sea Outlet

PY0506125291 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jun 91

[Text] There are 23 Latin American foreign ministers attending the 21st OAS General Assembly. Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Torres, who is also here in Chile, has said that Bolivia's quest for a sea outlet is a bilateral issue between Bolivia and Chile.

He added that Peru will applaud the achievement of a solution if it is based on compliance with the treaties in force.

[Begin Torres recording] Peru has, is, and will continue to support this as a bilateral issue. Peru's involvement will be based on the terms established by the treaty [not further identified] if necessary, but in principle it is a bilateral issue, and we encourage the achievement of a just solution. [end recording]

Asked about the meeting he held this morning with Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma, Torres said they discussed bilateral economic, social, and cultural ties.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Is there any possibility of bilateral cooperation between Chile and Peru regarding the antinarcotics struggle?

[Torres] This is precisely one of the issues we discussed today; that is, the need to establish police cooperation that will complement an agreement on drug trafficking signed some months ago. We have to develop complementary activities in this sector because drug trafficking and terrorism have no borders. They act at all levels; therefore, they demand the joint action of all countries. [end recording]

Chile, Canada Sign Agreement

PY0506192491 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] The Chilean and Canadian Governments today signed a major economic cooperation agreement within the 21st OAS General Assembly. The agreement was signed by Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma and Barbara McDougall, his Canadian counterpart [title as heard].

Under the terms of the agreement, a Chilean-Canadian council will be created to analyze pending trade issues and investment matters.

Finance Minister Alejandro Foxley highlighted the importance of this initiative, noting that Chile is the first Latin American country to sign this kind of agreement with Canada. He noted that this accord follows the framework agreement signed with the United States in 1990 and added that a similar document will be signed with Mexico within the next two months.

Chile will thus have access to a market of 350 million people, which represents good prospects for the Chilean economy, Foxley said.

Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentina Antidrug Effort

PY0406145291 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 3 Jun 91 p 36

[Text] The Argentine, Bolivian, and Paraguayan antinarcotics police forces have launched the "Three Borders" joint operation against cocaine trafficking in the three South American countries.

The operation was planned in April at a meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and was launched on 1 June. The operation covers the Bolivian areas bordering Argentina and Paraguay.

In Argentina the operation will be carried out in the northern region of Salta Province, while in Paraguay it will cover the vast western region extending from Pedro P. Pena to the border marker north of Bahia Negra.

There have been no reports about the number of antinarcotics personnel deployed in the "Three Borders" operation but it is estimated that over 200 police officers are patrolling the thousands of kilometers along the Paraguayan, Bolivian, and Argentine borders.

Brazil was interested in participating in the operation but decided against it. The Brazilians instead carried out an operation in Parana State in the area surrounding the lake formed by the Itaipu Dam. This police operation is targeted against car thieves and smugglers as well as drug traffickers.

The resolute Colombian and Peruvian police actions against cocaine trafficking has forced Medellin Cartel drug traffickers to seek new cocaine routes to export drugs to the United States, Brazil, and Europe.

Two recent operations by the Brazilian federal police in which 40 kg of cocaine was seized in Sao Paulo has led to the determination that Pedro Juan Caballero [in northeast Paraguay] is a new drug trafficking center. The Brazilian police have established that the 40 kg of cocaine came from Pedro Juan Caballero, capital of Amambay Department, and that the drug belonged to Brazilian citizen Sebastian Spencer, who was recently released from jail in Argentina where he was serving a sentence for drug trafficking.

Sebastian Spencer is the brother-in-law of Adilson Rosatti, who was sentenced by Paraguayan courts on charges of trafficking drugs and precursor chemicals.

According to the O Globo network, Brazilian police seized 12 kg of cocaine from two Colombians and one Bolivian in a Sao Paulo hotel in another operation last week.

Cuba

Castro To Attend First Iberian-American Summit

PA0406152891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1434 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] Havana, 4 Jun (EFE)—Cuban President Fidel Castro will attend the first Iberian-American summit to be held in Guadalajara, Mexico on 18-19 July, Mexican sources have confirmed in the Cuban capital.

The confirmation was made in the invitation that the Mexican Ambassador to Cuba Mario Moya Palencia issued to a group of Cuban personalities to have lunch with Alfredo del Mazo, special ambassador appointed by Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to deal with the summit.

"President Fidel Castro has confirmed his attendance (at the first Iberian-American summit), accepting the invitation of the Mexican president," Ambassador Moya said in the invitation to which EFE obtained access.

Spokesman on U.S. Criticism of Nuclear Complex

PA0406193191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] Washington, 3 Jun (EFE)—Ariel Ricardo, spokesman for the Cuban Interests Section in the United States, has told EFE that U.S. criticism of and warnings about a nuclear complex under construction in Cuba, are part of a campaign to portray this Caribbean country as a possible threat.

"It is a major campaign to portray Cuba as a threat, when the United States is the one that has always posed a threat," the spokesman said in reference to U.S. statements regarding the construction of nuclear reactors in the island.

"We would be willing to cooperate with the United States on nuclear security matters as long as it refrains from trying to unilaterally impose its conditions," Ariel Ricardo said.

The spokesman for the Cuban mission said that the Cuban themselves are most interested in the security of the nuclear complex and added that the measures that have been adopted are in compliance with international norms.

"As you might understand, before worrying about the security of people in Florida, we worry about security in our own country," he said in response to statements by the U.S. State Department voicing Washington "concerns" over a Cuban nuclear complex, which is near the coastline of that U.S. peninsula.

"Just as the United States is worried about nuclear security in Cuba, we are worried about the nuclear plants in Florida," Ricardo added.

The Cuban spokesman believes that the United States cannot "try to unilaterally impose its conditions" and convince other countries to follow its blockade policy.

Last week, following several reports on alleged defects at a nuclear complex now under construction in Cuba, the State Department pointed out that countries cooperating with the Cuban Government in the nuclear field should limit themselves to security matters and added that Havana must allow international experts to visit those facilities.

"The United States has a very particular way of promoting cooperation," Ariel Ricardo said. He said that the United States has refused to grant visas to Cuban experts wanting to participate in conferences on nuclear topics in that country.

"I wish to underscore two things: First, the United States is maintaining its political boycott against Cuba, but wants to impose its conditions. Second, it has questioned the capabilities of our engineers as if we were inferior, when our country has been able to achieve great projects and be at par with the best," Ricardo said.

The Cuban spokesman said that there is a double standard in the United States that is also reflected in its attitude toward the Middle East, where "on the one hand, it advocates the non-proliferation of arms and stability, and on the other, it sells arms."

As for U.S. criticism that Cuba has not yet signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of Tlatelolco, the spokesman said that his country will not sign that agreement, as long as atomic weapons are stored in the United States.

He also pointed out that the United States could be storing nuclear arms on the island of Cuba itself, refering to the U.S. Guantanamo Base, in the southern coast of Cuba. "The fact that we have not yet signed that treaty does not mean that we are not following its principles," Ricardo said.

The spokesman believes that criticism of Cuba's domestic situation is part of the same campaign, which is motivated by political reasons.

"There is a reality: Cuba is facing a very serious economic situation. We must compare this situation to that of other Latin American countries. In our country nobody is starving to death. There are no homeless people living on the streets as there are in the United States," Ariel Ricardo added.

Final Military Cargo Arrives From Angola

FL0406203491 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] The Cuban vessel Antonio Guiteras has arrived at the Mariel Port as part of Operation Carlota. The vessel traveled from Lobito to Luanda and from there it embarked on a 17-day trip to Mariel. Part of the Cuban

weapons and military equipment that was used in Angola was brought back on the deck and in the storage compartments of the vessel.

[Begin recording] [Commander Milian Amiala] It is important because it is the vessel that concluded the withdrawal from Lobito Port. We were the last vessel to victoriously depart Lobito with all the equipment left there. The vessel was loaded in record time. We then proceeded to Luanda where the rest of the equipment was loaded before heading to Cuba.

[Captain Argeo Villamonte] I believe that aside from the fact that vessels flagged in other places have participated on a smaller scale in these military deployments, I mean Soviet vessels, the main task fell on the Cuban fleet, during these final stages as well as in 1975, when the Angolan people began to be helped. The Cuban fleet, the Mambisa Fleet Enterprise, has been responsible for most of these movements. Our military customers have praised our unfailing performance.

[Commander Amiala] The assigned mission, the transportation of armaments and technical equipment from the People's Republic of Angola, has been fulfilled.

[General Ramon Pardo] With the arrival of this vessel and its precious military cargo that returns victoriously from the People's Republic of Angola as part of the conclusion of Operation Carlota, we receive this equipment which victoriously fulfilled its mission and returns to join our armed forces, to strengthen our combat readiness. It also returns fully operational as a result of the efforts of the officers, the soldiers, and all Cuban and Angolan personnel that participated in preparing it for the return to Cuba. [end recording]

Job Placement of Internationalists Reported

FL3005134291 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 30 May 91

[Text] Almost all of the internationalists that have returned to Ciego de Avila since the signing of the accords between Angola, Cuba, and South Africa have returned to their old jobs or are being integrated into the work force.

Colonel Abel Reyes Rodriguez, head of the Provincial Directorate for Assistance for Combatants, Families of Internationalists, and Martyrs [Direccion Provincial de Atencion a Combatientes, Familiares de Internacionalistas y Martires], has said that of the more than 2,600 comrades who have returned, less than 1 percent remain without jobs. He said that thanks to the efforts of the Provincial Directorate, some 98 percent of the difficulties presented by family members of internationalists were resolved, without a drop in attention to the needs of Liberation War fighters and clandestine fighters.

Friends, I would also take advantage of the occasion to report that for the first time in the history of the Ciego de Avila sports movement, the province has been declared "Ready To Win" [Lista para Vencer]. The systematic functioning of seven gymnasiums, the construction of 31 basic sports complexes, and the increase in the number of participants in the exercise program for grandparents, are part of the advances in sports in Ciego de Avila in the past year.

Juan Escalona Convenes ANPP Meeting for 4 Jul

FL0406133891 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] Juan Escalona Reguera, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] of Cuba, has announced that the Ninth Regular Session of the Third Legislature of the ANPP will convene on 4 July. The ANPP meets twice a year.

Havana Reports Increased Violence in Berlin

FL0306173591 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] Violence has increased in Berlin. Before the fall of the wall, West Germans heard from their family members in the East how they enjoyed peace and tranquility in the streets, daily life without tensions, and news free of murders and attempted murders.

Crime statistics for one week in May this year equal those of one year in the ex-German Democratic Republic, before the fall of the wall. In the last few months, Berlin has become the capital of violence and crime. Unemployment, poverty, and a lack of hope are the principle reasons behind an increase in street violence and delinquency. Berlin leads Germany in criminal statistics. In 1990 there were 400,000 misdemeanors and 60,000 felonies, more than in 1989.

Panel Surveys Polish Economic Policy

FL3005212391 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 0133 GMT 25 May 91

["International View" program: "The Course of a Disaster," with host Valentin Rodriguez and guests Francisco Brown, a researcher at the Center for European Studies; and Francisco Forteza, a PRENSA LATINA reporter and former correspondent in Poland; in Havana—live]

[Text] [Announcer] Since the end of World War II until the beginning of the eighties, a socialist building process developed in Poland which, in the middle of periodic crises and contradictions, gave way to notable advances in industrial development and the living standard and conditions in the country. Since the last decade, socialism begun to collapse and capitalism began to be implemented in that nation. What were the causes that motivated the fall of socialism in Poland? Which internal forces promoted the return of capitalism in that country? What role do the United States and the West play in the antisocialist offensive in Poland? "International View" devotes its program to the discussion of such important matters. [introductory music]

[Rodriguez] Good evening, friends. Today is Friday, and I am again with you. Important events have occurred in the world in recent weeks that have captured the attention of all the media: the assassination of former President Rajiv Gandhi, the resignation of Mengistu Haile Mariam in Ethiopia, and of course, the start on 22 May of a strike in Poland. It is precisely Poland that will be the subject of today's program.

When the 10th Plenum of the Central Committee of what was then known as the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] adopted its position vis-a-vis political and labor union pluralism in January 1989, it opened the doors to an unpredictable future for the nation and for its own existence as a party. At that time, a rapid process of dismantling socialism started, and Poland opened its doors to capitalism. From January 1989 to the present, two years have passed. Here with me tonight for a dialogue with you about Poland, "The Course of a Disaster," are Francisco Brown, a researcher at the Center for European Studies; and Francisco Forteza, a fellow reporter for PRENSA LATINA and former correspondent for that agency in Poland for several years. Welcome, Francisco Brown and Forteza, to "International View."

[Brown] Thank you.

[Forteza] Thank you.

[Rodriguez] Well, I began precisely by saying that on 22 May, the day before yesterday, a strike began in Poland that is paralyzing a considerable part of the transportation system and the garbage collection. We know that today there is a high unemployment rate, a really impressive rate. So far this year about 183,000 workers have lost their jobs through massive layoffs. They are unemployed, unprotected; we should stress that idea. The level of industrial production has dropped by 18 percent. In your opinion, what is the true state of Poland's economy today?

[Forteza] Well, you have said a bit about it. The situation in Poland, the Polish economy, is suffering the blows from precisely these changes. It is a country subject to tensions, subject to an economic program, the economic program prepared by Mr. Leszek Balcerowicz, who is the finance minister, and who supports to a certain extent ...[rephrases] or is supported by the current government. I would like to cite a figure. It is correct that there are 1,300,000 unemployed people in Poland, somewhat thanks to this program, because this program seeks this, precisely. They think that an army of unemployed is a basic step towards a market economy. They think that this army of unemployed exerts pressure, etc., but of course the unprotected unemployed—as you very well said—do not think that way. They are the ones who have to find the money every day for their families.

There is an observation by advisers to Jan Bielecki, who is the Polish prime minister, as you know. The president is Lech Walesa, right? But Bielecki has his own economic advisers, and they say that he—Bielecki—feels more and more trapped between the anvil of the international financial institutions [words indistinct] their aid to Poland, and the hammer of some union organizations which, as in the case of Solidarity, enjoy public support from the powerful Catholic hierarchy. So this man is a man [words indistinct] sandwich—that is the image that comes to mind, economically speaking—under pressure by these two things. Because the monetarist policy set by Balcerowicz precisely, in addition to raising unemployment, leads prices to high levels and leads wages to stagnate, or not to increase, and this reduces purchasing power. The stores become full but pockets become empty. So you can go to the store, but it is unlikely that you will be able to buy anything. So, in this respect there is great pressure.

There are also other pressures, others that come from the countryside. The Polish economy depends a lot on agriculture, and there are great contradictions in agriculture with the government's agricultural policy, precisely because of these issues, precisely because they strain the economy in a certain way. They say to people: Now we are going to protect the country's agricultural products, but at the same time we are going to make a lot of imports. At the same time we are going to allow foreign capital in. Of course, this is causing agriculture, the small farmers, to suffer. This...

[Rodriguez, interrupting] Everything seems to indicate that this Balcerowicz plan, which is the plan that is being implemented, an adjustment plan, a severe adjustment to the Polish economy, the belt-tightening plan, apparently has had very serious results. What is the Balcerowicz plan and what real effects has it had on the Polish economy today, starting with some points that I have mentioned and that you have [words indistinct]?

[Forteza] If you will allow me ....

[Rodriguez, interrupting] Yes, of course.

[Forteza] Balcerowicz reminds me a lot of Thatcherism, right? As you know, when she applied her monetarist, neoconservative, etc. economics, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher proposed cuts in social benefits with the result of great unemployment, with the result of controlled inflation, supposedly controlled, because wages do not grow in that respect, so currency in circulation drops, and in addition to this, respect for the clauses—it is very important to say this—that the IMF and World Bank impose. If they do not respect this, if Mr. Balcerowicz does not respect this, well then the IMF and the World Bank will tell him: We will not send you one cent more. We will not send you one dollar more for aid or financing for such-and-such, and so you are left ...[rephrases] you cannot accelerate your program.

This is precisely the problem: Bielecki on the one hand as prime minister accepts this Balcerowicz plan, implements it, does a certain amount of harm to the less privileged social classes of the populace; and on the other hand, the populace is also organized into unions, and we know what has happened with them in the last few years.

So now the unions say: Well, look what has happened. We now want to exert pressure so that this will not happen. So, as I have said, in this respect the government is now in a kind of two-way ...[rephrases] squeezed between two pressures: on the one hand, the workers who have not benefited, with their unemployed who are not protected, as you said; and on the other the IMF and the World Bank, who tell them: Comply, because if you do not comply we will withdraw our support.

[Brown] It is worthwhile to clarify that the Balcerowicz plan and all the benefits [words indistinct] neoconservatism very much in fashion these days to the specific conditions of the Polish economy; that is, the disappearance of state subsidies for basic necessities, and a drastic, abrupt reduction in social security. But I would say in addition to what Forteza has said, that the Balcerowicz plan also has an inconsistency, and that is (?high level) of economic recession it is causing in the Polish economy. All economists definitely agree that this is one of the great inconsistencies of the Balcerowicz plan. That is, everything points towards a complication of the political situation because a workers' respose is being planned. Everything seems to indicate that [words indistinct] and I think, I insist, that the economic, social, and political situation will become even more complicated.

[Rodriguez] To understand, I have to compare some statistics from some Polish sources. Electricity rose by 20 percent, gas by 80 percent, railway transportation and airline tickets rose 80 percent, the price of urban transportation rose 50 percent. So inflation right now is at about three digits, 321 percent. I think these figures are very eloquent about how the populace's living standard has deteriorated greatly, especially, as you were saying, for the less privileged social classes. There is another point that also interests me, and this is Poland's massive foreign debt.

[Forteza] According to the most recent statistics that have been officially acknowledged, it is $46 billion. That is quite a bit, $46 billion. So precisely because they want to have a consumer society, a market society, mercantile, based on market relations, they need great amounts of imports. So they spend. Of course, this dates back a while, but it was not handled the way it is being handled right now. They want to increase imports now, and they have increased them to levels such that I do not know how they are going to manage it if they want to pay for them. They cannot; really it is quite a big debt, $46 billion, which, as we can see, is tending to increase. It is not tending to drop.

[Rodriguez] The United States gave a political prize to Poland for its contribution to the collapse of socialism and they pardoned ....

[Forteza, interrupting] Yes, but that was nothing. As you can understand, it was a little more than $2 billion, right, Brown?

[Brown] Well, talking in terms of the debt, although I am not really a specialist on the Polish economy, I can say that my impression is that it has more a political than an economic significance. Not only did the United States agree to pardon 70 percent of Poland's debt, but Britain also agreed ...[corrects himself] pardon me, France ...

[Rodriguez, interrupting] The Paris Club.

[Brown] ...agreed to pardon 60 percent and the Paris Club 50 percent.

[Rodriguez] Part of the debt to them, right? Poland's debt.

[Brown] Now, the problem is that this is no more than the recognition of a fact that everyone knew, that Poland's debt cannot be repaid. [Words indistinct] can give the Polish Government some breathing room politically nor can it give the economic program they have been implementing some breathing room.

[Rodriguez] Yes, I agree.

[Rodriguez] Poland was the first East European country to begin a process of capitalist changes, to characterize it in this precise way. It collapsed after 45 years of socialism; 1989 is the year of the collapse. In your opinion, you who were at the scene of the events, you have studied and know about the Polish reality, what could have been the true causes of this phenomena.

[Brown] Valentin, this question helps to focus on a very hot topic issue today. It is related to the causes of the defeat and failure of socialism, not only in Poland, but also in other East European countries. There are two ideas about this. One which sustains that what has happened in Poland and other East European countries is nothing more than the concrete and tangible evidence that socialism is unviable historically. Therefore, socialism does not have a future and capitalism is the eternal regime. As it can be understood, this view is a completely bourgeoisie one and is the basis of the triumphalistic euphoria of our enemies. We see this in the press every day. We sustain a different view. What has failed is a specific historical experience.

[Rodriguez] The Polish experience.

[Brown] Under the concrete conditions of East Europe. The subject at hand today is the Polish experience. If socialism has failed we could say [words indistinct] for a number of reasons. There are numerous causes. There are historic causes which date a long time, there are socioeconomic and political-ideological causes. But in my opinion, the determining ones have to do with the PZPR actions inasmuch as it was the ruling party for over four decades. I believe that this is where we should focus on the search for the causes. I could note three basic ideas in this regard. The first one has to do with what we could characterize as the grave mistakes in the political-ideological work done by the party. Second, the mistakes made in the application of the economic and social policies. And finally, a catalyzing factor, which helped to unleash the events. This is what I call the policy of systematic concessions by the party of the

Polish communists to the antisocialist opposition in the country. These are three ideas which I believe are key in this regard.

As far as the mistakes made in the political-ideological work, the PZPR, for many reasons, stopped being a political-ideological force. It stopped being a party. It stopped arguing, convincing the masses....

[Rodriguez] Relating to them.

[Brown] ... relating to them. Together with the mistakes in the political-economic area we are going to look into later, the masses withdrew themselves from party, they stopped trusting it. Ultimately, it disappeared from the political scenario as we are going to see later on. Added to this, the PZPR also applied an economic policy geared toward consumerism. It accepted the consumerism challenge of the West, which is wealthy and developed, with a different tradition and history. It mistakenly thought that the identification with the social regime could be reached through the economy. I believe there is a simplistic view in which people ask: What has socialism given to the people? They forget that socialism is the fruit of the work, of the effort of workers, of people. In sum, the Polish worker, the Polish citizen identified himself with the regime not with the values, the principles, the norms of that socialist regime but with what the regime gave. This explains that there was a certain break between what each person contributed as a worker and what he received as member of society. People got used to having a consumerist mentality. There was a kind of conditional legitimacy.

[Forteza] At that time, I remember there was the view of the metalization [metalizacion] of society. Undoubtedly, this had a great influence over the average Polish citizen. Stressing what Brown was saying regarding the economy, a bottleneck was formed when they bought outdated manufacturing rights. In many cases they were technologically outdated. This is what they got. I remember a brand name of color television sets that I am not going to mention that they bought with the intention of exporting them. When they attempted to export them they could not find a market.

[Rodriguez] It appears as though the greatest ally of Solidarity in the removal of the PZPR from the Polish stage was its own mistakes.

[Forteza] Exactly, I believe I agree with you.

[Rodriguez] What are the political trends in this stage now?

[Forteza] Do you want to answer?

[Brown] Yes, I believe we need to note something in answering this question. We need to examine well the ordinary concept of the political thinking existing in a society; ideas, criteria, ideologies, and political forces that act in that society which base their activity in those criteria, conditions, programs, and points of view. This said, I will briefly explain the situation in Poland. We should remember that [words indistinct] important for society, within the context of a generalized rejection of socialism in the historic version that was known there.

[Rodriguez] Of course.

[Brown] This explains that right-wing and clearly anticommunist forces come to the limelight. I believe these are the ones that have the predominant influence the political discourse [words indistinct] the left has been very neglected after the PZPR disappeared. It separated into two social democratic parties that fight against each other.

[Rodriguez] The PZPR disappears from the Polish political scene.

[Brown] Exactly, exactly. As you were saying a while ago. The left-wing is excluded at a greater degree than in other East European countries. In general terms, I could say that the political discourse of today's Poland is dominated by the right-wing forces, especially the ones that are interested in Solidarity.

[Forteza] I wanted to mention two things; one, that there are contradictions in the economic world and, therefore, also in the political one, between Walesa and Bielecki. They have been manifested in the last few weeks. The other one is that the situation is so tense and irregular that, for example, Anna Walentynowicz, who was a founder of the Solidarity labor union in the eighties....

[Rodriguez, interrupting] She was a shipyard worker.

[Brown] She was the Polish Pasionaria.

[Forteza] Exactly, at that time she was aligned with Walesa, and now she is against Balcerowicz' measures, but Walesa is the president of the country.

[Rodriguez] I know that you are pronouncing the name correctly in Polish, but we are talking of Walesa.

[Forteza] Yes, of Walesa.

[Rodriguez] On 22 December 1990, Lech Walesa was proclaimed president, thus, consolidating a right-wing government [words indistinct]. In your view, now that he is in power, how is he complying with what he promised when he was heading the opposition, when he led the Solidarity labor union?

[Brown] Valentin, remember it's one thing that is promised during the electoral campaign from the opposition and what can be fulfilled when a person is in power. Objective limitations impose certain restrictions to those promises. In my view, Walesa or Walesa as our beloved Forteza pronounces it, is not in a position to deliver in line with the populist discourse he used during his electoral campaign. It is not because he does not want to, but because the contradictions of the neoconservative economic program Forteza talked about a while ago limit him. Up to now, it has been observed that the greatest deterioration has been suffered by Bielecki's

government. This has not been Walesa's case but everything points at the fact that [words indistinct] and this explains that there will necessarily be more unemployment, a greater decline in the standard of living, and that a society of empty pockets and full markets is going to be accentuated more.

[Rodriguez] Forteza, you referred to Anna Walentynowicz.

[Forteza] Yes.

[Rodriguea] Well, this citizen in 1980 was the one who gave Solidarity the possibility of opening Pandora's box. This citizen was fired from her job at that time, and Solidarity's actions began because of that. This same woman, viewers, [words indistinct] promotors of strikes in Poland; that is, these strikes that began on 22 May in Warsaw and some other important cities in the country. Why is this citizen, a member of Solidarity, now promoting strikes [word indistinct] against a government headed by Solidarity?

[Forteza] Well, I suppose it is a little of what has been said, that, well, in the case of Walesa, what you promise when you are a candidate and what you can actually do are not the same thing. For her it was the opposite. She thought there were many promising things, there were many promises ahead of her in 1980, and it has turned out that she has found that these promises are very difficult to keep. There are many people to blame in this case [words indistinct] unemployment, etc. Unemployment of unprotected people may be a very good thing for neoconservatism perhaps, but for the people in the street, the average Pole, it is a terrible thing. That is, their purchasing power has been reduced and they cannot live. This is happening to her ....

[Rodriguez, interrupting] Perhaps she has lost faith?

[Forteza] Surely, well, it seems she has some faith when she is now fighting what she herself ...

[Rodriguez, interrupting] Perhaps she has lost faith in what she originally fought for, right, with Walesa?

[Forteza] Exactly.

[Rodriguez] What are the movements that backed Walesa at that time saying? They brought him to power, among other things; that is, the Center Alliance, the Liberal Congress, and the Citizens Committees. It was those three movements that ...

[Brown, interrupting] This is very much tied to what Forteza was just explaining. The thing is that Solidarity, in the past, in 1980, was broad, heterogeneous, gathering together diverse tendencies and factions united to each other by opposition to the system, to socialism, and united by the underground life. Once it came to power, a process of internal differentiation began in Solidarity. [Words indistinct] at least six or seven large factions of the formerly more or less monolithic political movement. As you said, the Center Alliance has become a Christian Democratic Party ...

[Rodriguez, interrupting] Yes, the Christian Democratic Party, recently.

[Brown] Which hopes to be the main election backer of President Lech Walesa. There is the Democratic Union Party of former Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, which hopes to become the main parliamentary opposition movement. There are the agrarian parties, which hope to become the third-strongest political movement in the parliamentary institutions. In this respect, I think there will be greater complication of the Polish situation and of Solidarity, with the antisocialist movements.

[Rodriguez] Well, unfortunately we are running out of time. Poland was the first case of the East European countries to collapse. We will certainly discuss others. I think, Forteza and Brown, and you viewers also, that the events that have taken place in Poland in the last five years clearly show that neoconservative formulas, privatization, the market economy—that is, a total opening to capitalism—do not lead to the real solutions our nations need. The example is there: It is estimated that there will be 2 million unemployed people in Poland by the end of 1991. It is a clear example.

So these are the formulas offered to us, as Forteza said, by the IMF and the World Bank, and these are definitely the formulas offered to us by capitalism in its reestablishment at this time. The example of Poland is there, just as there may be other examples [words indistinct] for those who have tried to follow this path of the market economy. Well, [words indistinct] Forteza for your presence here tonight and [words indistinct] and you viewers, we will see you next Friday to continue to talk about international current events.

Haiti

U.S. Ambassador, Aristide Play 'Cat and Mouse'

FL0406000391 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 3 Jun 91

[From the press review]

[Text] Bourik Chaje [Loaded Donkey referring to U.S. Ambassador Alvin P. Adams] and Titide [President Jean-Bertrand Aristide] are like a cat and mouse. Bourik is the cat and Titide is the mouse. They are watching each other, each of them trying to play on the other's mind. The cartoon on the front cover of BALANCE and an article published on page nine reflects the magazine's thinking that it will always be possible to say that the government wants to go too fast when it attacks all enemies at the same time—bad bourgeois, Americans, and so on. It will always be possible to reproach the Preval government because it does not really know how to make diplomatic sheep's eyes.

Meanwhile, the Americans are playing their game. Bourik [Chaje] Pa Kanpe [Loaded Donkey Does Not Stop] is always present everywhere. He was at the

collection of Send Haiti Up in Saint Louis de Gonzague in Port-au-Prince with his basket of sandwiches and in the Hyppolite Market drama as well, the drama of this market which burned. The Donkey gave 750,000 gourdes [$150,000] as the Embassy's contribution to rebuilding the market.

Aristide too is playing the game. His language has become cooler with less gall, more honey, a real cat and mouse game which does not please Aristide's enemies at all, according to HAITI EN MARCHE that stated in an analysis that the Loaded Donkey has displeased all the people who do not agree with Aristide. They even reportedly say that the Loaded Donkey is a cretin and that he has failed in his mission. It is reported that they are even wondering when the Donkey's dismissal day will come.

HAITI EN MARCHE takes advantage of the opportunity to make some comments on HAITI-OBSERVATEUR. It claims that it presents itself as the main organ of the opposition and that it does not find anything serious to say anymore. HAITI EN MARCHE adds that the Loaded Donkey would be well advised to take it easy because his mission goes beyond the scope of Haiti. His mission falls within a number of strategies the U.S. State Department is setting up so as to try to oust the Fidel Castro regime in Cuba through elections. The results of the elections in Haiti have thwarted the plans of Uncle Sam for Cuba. It is not these men that they wished for in the big white house [National Palace] in the center of Port-au-Prince, but a man [as heard] who they could use as a carrying donkey (?beast of burden) so that when the carrying donkey meets with the Loaded Donkey they can form a pair of asse:. Therefore, HAITI EN MARCHE believes Uncle Sam is not innocent of some little shambles that occurred in the country following the 16 December elections. Today, the Loaded Donkey is otherwise obliged to play the game. This does not please the people who do not want this government to put down its roots.

Calm Returns After Army Mutinies in Capital

FL0406180891 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] Calm has returned to the Petionville Barracks where soldiers mutinied this morning, and demanded the dismissal of Captain Leandre. Shots were fired and Kenscoff Road was blocked. At 1300 GMT President Aristide, accompanied by his prime minister, traveled to the site. After meeting first with the military men in charge, then with the mutineers, President Aristide left the Petionville Barracks with Captain Leandre. He promised that no transfers or sanctions would be imposed against the mutineers, and traffic returned to normal on Kenscoff Road.

At around 1630 GMT, another mutiny erupted at the Army Transport Service. Following is a live report from reporter Marcus.

[Reporter Marcus] After some shooting, the situation is calm. Some tap-taps [public transport] are back in the traffic outside the Army Transport Service where the military were firing shots. We hear that a delegation from military headquarters are arriving to negotiate with them. What is it that they want?

[Unidentified soldier] The soldiers from the 43d Company have been divided into two groups; both receive money for expenses. When we asked for money, he told us to mind our own business; we know we have to look after state matters, but we also need to care for our families. He is always holding us up for ridicule...

[Marcus] Who is he? Colonel Carenard, commander of the Transport Service.

[Soldier] This morning, we realized that we can no longer take it. Everyday we struggle. Sometimes he tries to hold a meeting. We ignore him. We are tired today. We want the president to come and talk to us, or the Army High Command to come so that we can get the resignation of Colonel Carenard.

[Marcus] Calm has returned at the intersection of Jean-Jacques Dessalines and Delmas Roads; the military men are back in their barracks at the Transport Service and are waiting for a government representative to come and talk with them. Traffic is back to normal, but the population is rooted to the spot, awaiting developments in this second incident.

Salinas on Trilateral Free Trade Agreement

PA0406001091 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0310 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 31 May (NOTIMEX)—President Carlos Salinas de Gotari said today that with the trilateral free trade agreement Mexico seeks to promote an intensified trade relationship to prevent local products from being stopped at the border area by bureaucratic decisions.

Salinas said he wants clear rules of exchange and to give the nation's countryside the opportunity to generate more production and employment sources to ensure that Mexicans can find decent opportunities in their country and no longer have to migrate to the north.

During a meeting with the university community of the State of Sinaloa, Salinas said that the training of each Mexican and the degree of competitiveness will determine whether Mexico takes advantage of world changes.

In this regard the chief executive admitted that to face these changes, various aspects of daily life, such as the infrastructure and education system, must be changed.

As a result, he added, the nation's economic growth will be promoted without neglecting social development, because this is essential to ensure that recovery is balanced and fair for everyone.

During this activity, during which Salinas inaugurated the new facilities of the Western University of Sinaloa, he gave assurances that in order to attain the goal proposed for all Mexicans, the government will work intensely to upgrade the education system. Specifically, Salinas offered this university concrete support in the area of computers and sports and ordered Imevision television officials to help the university through use of its programs and photography laboratories.

After his meeting with the students, Salinas headed for Los Mochis where he concluded the first day of his tour of Sinaloa shortly after attending a party organized by local residents.

President Salinas on 1 June will inaugurate the new commercial port of Topolobampo and head a ceremony to mark Navy Day there.

The president of the republic will end his tour at about 1500 after attending a luncheon for nationwide representatives of the maritime sector.

Sectors Approve Takeover of Veracruz Port

PA0406003791 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2319 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Xalapa, Veracruz, 1 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Businessmen and government officials have stated that the decision to seize Veracruz port was correct and will promote imports and exports in the area.

Javier Enriquez Morales, the leader of the Mexican Employers Confederation, Coparmex, said that this action was being demanded by all the productive sectors in the country.

"It was impossile to maintain an unsafe and expensive port. It does not match the new era of changes that can be observed all over the world," Enriquez Morales asserted.

The federal government ordered the seizure of Veracruz port last night to take over its administration and reorganization. The goverment also announced the dismantling of the stevadores' Veracruz Port Service, Srpover. [Servicios Porturarios de Veracruz]

Javier Gutierrez Escobedo, the president of the State Industrial Association, AIEVAC, [Asociacion de Industriales del Estado] and Sergio Hernandez Hernandez, the adviser of the National Chamber of Commerce, Canaco, agreed that the measures had been firm and correct.

Both officials reaffirmed that the reason the Veracruz port movement has reached this critical phase is because of corruption within the port union. The Canaco adviser pointed out that the port became so unsafe that importers and exporters preferred to channel their cargo through the port at Houston, United States.

He recalled that due to constant union conflicts there were unjustified strikes in the port area, causing importers and exporters to lose hundreds of millions of pesos.

AIEVAC President Gutierrez Escobedo emphasized that through the Free Trade Treaty (TLC) with the United States and Canada, Mexico will attempt to build modern and efficient ports throughout the country, not just in Veracruz.

He asserted that this measure will benefit the workers, the importers, and the exporters as it attempts to make the port more secure, efficient, and productive with more reasonable tariffs and with better wages for the workers.

Hector Salmeron Roiz, state economic development secretary, said that imports and exports in the Veracruz port will be promoted with the federal government's action.

Meanwhile, Amadeo Flores Espinoza, the president of the permament commission of the local congress, said that the measure is an example of new governmental actions and a warning to all parastate organizations that do not comply with their duties.

Authorities Announce Foreign Debt Figures

PA0506012091 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] According to the Finance and Public Credit Secretariat, the total public foreign debt balance up to March 1991 totaled $76.7 billion. This amount represents a $1.1 billion decrease compared to December 1990.

This decrease in the government sector debit is due to debt restructuring with international commercial banks, reorganizing public financing, privatizing state owned companies, and increasing the promotion of investment rather than relying on foreign credit.

Of the total foreign debt balance, 60.7 percent belongs to the federal government, 27.9 percent to development bank institutions, and 10.4 percent to state owned companies.

As of March 1991, the foreign debt is divided as follows: 23.4 percent to the United States, 18.6 percent to International Financial Institutions, 19.9 percent to Japan, 11.5 percent to Great Britain, 6.6 percent to France, 5.8 percent to Canada, 4.0 percent to Germany, and 2.4 percent to Switzerland. The remaining 9.8 percent is distributed among several other countries.

El Salvador

Reportage on Government, FMLN Peace Talks

News Conference Held

PA050602291 San Salvador Radio El Salvador Network in Spanish 1719 GMT 4 Jun 91

[News conference by Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria and attended by other unidentified members of the government delegation to the peace talks with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, with foreign and local reporters and unidentified moderator, at the Presidency in San Salvador; live—broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Santamaria]...local and foreign journalists who accompany us, and a brief exchange of views on the process, in our role as spokesmen and members of the Salvadoran Government's dialogue delegation. Yesterday evening we returned after completing another phase of the peace process. We met in Venezuela, as you are all aware, on the outskirts of Caracas, where we continued with the agenda of the process within the framework that the two parties have approved. The idea is to concentrate on essential issues, as has been the case since 4 April in Mexico City, where we discussed the following issues: constitutional reform, the Armed Forces, and the cease-fire. Consequently, the Caraballeda Meeting was a continuation of what is stipulated in the Mexico Agreements, meaning a continuation of discussion of a condensed agenda and a search for agreements on these two issues—which are part of what we call the basic agreements to advance toward achieving peace in the country.

The meeting was held, although there were some signs from the FMLN that, in our opinion, were not auspicious for the success of the meeting. During a meeting we held one week before in Managua, FMLN leader Jorge Shafik Handal predicted that there would be no results with regard to agreements at the Caracas meeting. In addition, it is appropriate to mention that the FMLN delegation was different from the one that went to Mexico, and that it was characterized by the absence of leaders we consider essential to reach agreements. This was another signal that indicated to us that the FMLN had embarked on a strategy that it would probably implement during the meeting in Caracas.

Furthermore, the FMLN announced to the political parties that attended the meeting in Managua—the same meeting where Handal had given the statements—that it was interested in adding another topic to the condensed agenda—an economic and social topic. Although we consider this topic to be part of the Caracas agenda, it is not part of the condensed agenda, because the latter refers to three essential topics that I have previously mentioned. Also, a series of violent actions occurred after the Mexico Agreements were signed. Ironically, the Mexico Agreements—which referred to constitutional reforms—were followed by an increase in violent actions. These violent actions were increased to a level we had not seen for some time, particularly sabotage against the power system and a series of terrorist actions. This included the use of car bombs; attacks on what were presumably military targets, which were not hit by the FMLN's fire, but rather hit the civilian population; and a series of threats against mayors and justices of the peace and their relatives.

Consequently, it has appeared that these are not isolated incidents. They are part of an overall strategy intended to use resources within the process to preclude any progress. Undoubtedly, I would like to state that the process has gathered momentum and that it has reached such a degree of maturity that it is now irreversible, regardless of such strategies and tactics. The process could be slowed at times, as happened in Caracas, meaning Caraballeda, but the process is irreversible. This has been stated previously by the FMLN representatives, as well. I will repeat this because they said it after the meeting during which the Mexico Agreements were signed.

If they concede that the process is irreversible, it cannot have reached its end, if you stop to consider that it is about to enter a crucial stage.

Certain leaders have made statements that seem rather hasty to me because they are not based on knowledge of exactly what happened at the meeting. For these statements to be made in a more objective manner that will contribute to the development of the process, they should focus more on knowledge of what truly happened at the negotiating table.

The FMLN may have achieved its goal—that we did not reach the agreements that we sought in Caraballeda—but we will seek these agreements at forthcoming meetings. There is something I should, perhaps, mention concerning the Caraballeda meeting. These meetings are no longer meetings that are held for the sake of doing so. Nor are they meetings which, in the end, do not represent the substance of the process. I want this to be clear.

At the Caraballeda meeting, partial progress was made and discussion on certain topics moved forward; I can assure you that the discussion of the cease-fire and Armed Forces has moved forward.

I read in El Salvador, and I was also informed in Venezuela, that the FMLN said that the government had presented 40 points that would retreat from the Armed Forces issue. Gentlemen, the draft of a document, which is often done by the mediator—in other words, the United Nations—is a draft and should be viewed as such. It is a draft, not a final document. Final documents are formed precisely by the observations that the sides present to the mediator. I would like you to know that the document in question refers to 40 amendments, which are not amendments as such but the government's

observations which are subject—within the discussion's dynamics—to consideration and improvement for a final agreement.

You must remember that what we are seeking at these meetings are final agreements. I must also tell you that there were 20 or 30 working documents or drafts pertaining to the constitutional reform issue. It is the dynamics of discussion and negotiation which finally make it possible for us to get past all of these steps, which are characteristic of the preparations for a final agreement. Therefore, I do not wish to make an issue [preceding word in English] out of information presented by one of the sides, because the FMLN has already presented that information.

At this point I would like to say something that the FMLN has not said. The government presented 40 observations and the FMLN totally rejected the document. This is, perhaps, the most delicate issue because the FMLN did not even look at the document that the United Nations was presenting; it totally rejected it. I have to say this because, in the end, it proves that if there are resources to delay the progress of a process, widespread rejection of a position presented in a draft document could, undoubtedly, be much more worrisome because it takes us back to square one.

A document that is reformulated is a document that brings together the positions of sides which, in the end, have managed to somehow overcome differences. A document that is rejected returns the sides to their original position. I would imagine that the FMLN wants to renew the discussion of certain topics which were already discussed. We resolved the Armed Forces issue with the constitutional reforms. If you review the constitutional reforms agreement, you will see that it states that the Armed Forces is a permanent institution.

Consequently, there is not the slightest doubt that we have already defined the future of the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces will continue to be part of the country's democratic institutions and part of the institutional framework of El Salvador. We think that to dispute again the future of the Armed Forces is part of a strategy to orient the ongoing discussion in a direction that would permit the rebels to control the steps that the government should take, thus effectively ending the negotiations. These are some aspects that I hope will be understood. I am not harming the process because I have read all about this in the newspapers and I am using the newspaper reports as a basis to make this comment. I am reporting on the realities presented in the talks. We have made an objective and realistic study of these points. All things considered, the talks were positive to a certain extent. Some progress was attained on a cease-fire and the issue of the Armed Forces. At the end of the Caraballeda meeting, we are again reporting that the talks will continue. The meeting with a large agenda will continue after a recess, which the sides deemed is important for holding consultations or for adjusting some points or subjects under discussion that could help clear up points of disagreement at the end of the meeting.

We think these points can probably be clarified in the next meeting with the experience acquired at each of these meetings. We expect the people to make an important assessment. This would let the sides know that the people want these meetings to come to some conclusion and that negotiating resources and strategies should disappear so that definite progress can be made. This is a kind of introduction of what happened in Caraballeda. If you have any questions, I will gladly answer them.

[Moderator] (?Cesar Teran), TELEPRENSA of El Salvador.

[(?Teran)] Doctor, it has been said that the debate on the Armed Forces has progressed 95 percent. Is there any possibility of agreeing on a cease-fire at the next meeting? Also, would the meeting planned for the second week of June be a preparatory one or a more formal one?

[Santamaria] Regarding your first question, the Armed Forces issue has been debated thoroughly. This has been admitted, not only by the government, but by the FMLN and the United Nations as well. This has been the central subject of discussion since the beginning of the talks. I am referring to the initial negotiations in Huastepeque, Mexico, where the first of 13 meetings was held. In other words, we have been discussing the Armed Forces for nearly one year. This is why it was said at the end of the Mexico meeting that this was a subject which the sides are likely to reach an agreement at a future meeting. This is what was thought might happen at the Venezuela meeting.

I want to repeat that there was a temporary and circumstantial impasse at the negotiating table in Mexico. We think this means that the possibility of reaching an agreement on the Armed Forces in a future meeting could not be ruled out. We also considered the possibility of clarifying some points of disagreement. There is no disagreement on the basic meaning. As an offshoot of our disagreement on the Armed Forces, we still differ on external aspects. The sides, however, agree on the basic points. I think this is one of the positive aspects of the discussion on the Armed Forces. We think that there will be no preparatory meeting after the recess. We will resume the debate on the points in the agenda, which are the central points. Each of the sides has to make sure of its stand at the opening of the next meeting.

[Moderator] Antoneo Alvarado, Canal Cuatro Television.

[Alvarado] Doctor, if, as you said, the process is heading toward a standstill, what would happen? What measures would the government adopt to pressure the FMLN for the process to continue? If the process is interrupted, the international aid the country receives would be affected, as would the government.

[Santamaria] There is no reason for the process to reach a standstill. This is the best time for the process. I wish to

state clearly that this is the best time for the process. I also wish to add something I did not mention earlier. This is so true that on 16 March, in Managua, the FMLN presented a document to the United Nations in which it stated that it was necessary to boost, strengthen, and accelerate the process. Why did the FMLN say this? Because they believe that after a year of talks, it is now time to take a firm step toward peace. In this document, which is entitled: The Basis To Accelerate the Process—that is the name of the document officially presented to the United Nations—the FMLN set 30 May as the deadline for reaching agreements within the framework of the process. What does this tell you?

We are currently discussing such issues as the Armed Forces, constitutional reform, and a cease-fire. These are issues on which agreements can be reached at the negotiating table. No one is going to suggest a consolidated multiple-issue agenda to accelerate the process if he knows that there are serious obstacles to overcome in such a short period of time, between 16 March and 30 May—that is, in eight weeks—for agreements to be reached. If a proposal like that is made, it must be because it is feasible. I base my comments on the words of the FMLN and the reasoning they gave in their document stating that the process is one in which we can reach agreements over the short term. If the FMLN now wants the 30 May deadline to go unnoticed—that was the deadline they set—perhaps it is because they still have serious problems to solve before a final decision is made. Perhaps the FMLN still has problems it has not been able to overcome. Whenever the FMLN comes close to signing an agreement or when a final agreement is about to be reached, it begins its delaying tactics and uses this type of action or maneuver to stop the progress of the process. I wish to add that the FMLN's capacity to manipulate and maneuver at this time is quite limited and here is where what you asked about comes into play: There is no need for the government to pressure the FMLN.

The FMLN is already being pressured. It is being pressured within the country, where we have political space occupied by the various ideological and political forces. They are letting the FMLN know this. We also have a pluralist Legislative Assembly. This is proof that such political space does exist. This is pressure on the FMLN. Why? So that the FMLN will see that the strategy of violence it promotes and the war it wants to wage to achieve a political goal, which is to assume political power, are no longer necessary. There is no room for war in this country and this is the pressure the FMLN is experiencing. The other form of pressure, even greater pressure, is the foreign pressure the FMLN is experiencing. If you read the UN Security Council resolution dated 12 May approving the creation of the UN Observer Group for El Salvador [Onusal], you will see that it states that short-term agreements on the Armed Forces and the cease-fire are necessary. This same resolution urges the parties involved to put an end to the war as soon as possible. That in itself is a message. In diplomatic language it means: Do it because we can no longer tolerate violence. To all this we can add that at this very moment, cease-fire agreements are being signed in other countries where similar problems exist. You have heard of the cease-fire agreement signed in Angola. This agreement has ended 16 years of war in Angola. You have also heard that a verification system is being prepared to handle the problem in Namibia. What does all this tell us? That there is no reason for us to continue to wage an extended war in this country. Today, around the world democracy is being strengthened. These are clear messages for the FMLN not to delay its decision to sign the agreement for definite peace in El Salvador.

[Moderator] Mario Elvin Ladin, from LA PRENSA GRAFICA.

[Ladin] Good morning, Doctor. Did you convince the FMLN to promise that the leaders absent at the Caracas meeting will be present at the Mexico meeting?

[Santamaria] I have been told that the FMLN explained to the United Nations why those leaders did not attend the meeting. The absence of such high-ranking persons does not go unnoticed, even by the United Nations. The FMLN had to explain why some of its leaders were not present in Caraballeda. At the last minute, the FMLN had to call in another member of the FMLN General Command, Mr. Salvador Sanchez Ceren, alias Leonel Gonzalez. They were forced to do this because it was evident that the members of their delegation did not have the decisionmaking authority that was needed to reach agreements.

The FMLN must realize that, at this moment, we are holding high-level meetings. The Salvadoran Government is not going to send a delegation to replace us claiming that it does not make any difference who attends the meeting. Our replacements would not be in a position to make the same decisions that we, who have been involved in the process from the very beginning, would make. That would not be correct. Therefore, we believe that the FMLN will have to do something about this. They are being criticized for dropping the level of their delegation and this is a clear sign that they did not intend to reach any final decisions in Caraballeda. This will make the FMLN realize that they cannot continue to use such tactics or strategies to delay making final decisions.

[Question indistinct]

[Santamaria] I am told that the United Nations is handling that. I do not wish to overstep my authority by saying where the meeting is going to be held. I am told that the United Nations is deciding where the meeting will be held. The United Nations will approach the parties involved to decide where the next meeting will be held. I cannot answer that question at this time, however, I can tell you that the United Nations will decide on that soon.

[Moderator] Ernesto Rivas, from the Canal Doce Television El Dia newscast.

[Rivas] Dr. Santamaria, how can we, the journalists, explain what is happening? You say that the time is right for dialogue and the FMLN claims that steps in the opposite direction have been taken. I would like to ask: Do you believe that the process of dialogue is losing credibility in the eyes of the people?

A second question: The FMLN has said that the dialogue commission has taken a step backward on the issue of the Armed Forces. It has said that the government commission changed some words, such as purge of the Army for evaluation of the Army. They have interpreted this as giving in to pressure from the Armed Forces.

[Santamaria] First, I wish to clarify that when I say that the time is right for the process, it is not something I am making up. I am using facts as a basis for my words. We have reached an agreement never before seen in the political history of our country, that is, on constitutional reform. For the first time, a democratic process for constitutional reform has been promoted. This has never been seen in El Salvador. What we saw in the past were so-called attempts to reform the Constitution through coups d'etat. In the long run, this only left bad memories for the people. If we cannot give what we have done its proper importance, then what is important? This is why I am saying that this is the best moment for the process. We are seeing specific facts. Good results have been achieved throughout the process. In August in Costa Rica, we talked about approving an agreement to be implemented as of 1 July with the help of Onusal. This was the agreement on defense and guarantees of human rights, something never before seen in the country. We have strongly demanded respect and guarantees for human rights, and for the first time in our history a government has asked for a verification group to come to the country to ensure that these guarantees are respected. If this is not important, then what is? This is all tangible proof. I can, therefore, add that the time is right for the process. How else can we describe it? I do not think there are other adjectives to describe this.

Furthermore, we are talking about an agreement on the Armed Forces and a cease-fire being reached soon. We are about to do this. I believe it could happen in the next few days. Therefore, we cannot say that this will go unnoticed by the people or that the people will lose their credibility in the process.

Probably.... [changes thought] Sometimes, based on someone's private agenda—in this case the FMLN's agenda—some of these actions may be kept from the people because it is advantageous to the FMLN. Therefore, what is advantageous for the FMLN? To increase the levels of violence so that the people become frustrated and demand that the next meeting achieve agreements on the Armed Forces and cease-fire. That would probably be advantageous for the FMLN, but it definitely contradicts what can be potentially advantageous for the FMLN, politically speaking. The FMLN will gain no political advantage by increasing the levels of violence in the country. In fact, this would prove detrimental for the FMLN. It is stupid and a contradiction for the FMLN to participate in the negotiations and adopt a political position while acting differently.

We believe that the only one affected by this, and the only one who pays a political cost for this, is the FMLN, so the problem is quite clear. The Salvadoran people know that the option for which we can struggle to solve the conflict, is a political solution, meaning a reasonable solution. The government invariably believes in this. The government of the Republic will struggle steadfastly to achieve a political solution to the conflict. We fully endorse the process and we will not use tactics or strategies at the negotiations to stop the process. That is why we do not endorse the FMLN's argument that a series of observations of a working document entail a setback. I have clearly said this. The observations may refer to certain points that either of the parties believe will eventually become part of a process and will eventually be carried out based on schedules necessary in this process to achieve certain goals at a given time. All this is part of a procedure that is characteristic of what we will approve with the FMLN.

Therefore, there is no breach and, when we talk about a purge and an evaluation, I might ask you: How much difference can there be between a purge and an evaluation, when the pejorative term for an evaluation is a purge? That is the pejorative term; but the real word to recognize someone's merits or lack of merits is an evaluation. When you want to promote someone, you must evaluate him. When you say that someone is unfit for something, you evaluate him. The terminology used within the phase of a process to evaluate or qualify represents an evaluation. In other words, there is no difference. We said that the word evaluation should be used because we think that is the appropriate term for the work that will be carried out. The other term actually refers to symbolism, perhaps the FMLN's political symbolism, and for what reason? Possibly to magnify the importance of actions that, in the FMLN's opinion, can undermine the morale of the Armed Forces. That is something else. It has nothing to do with the fact that the government may say it is necessary to qualify or evaluate the members of an institution.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] exact date of the next meeting?

[Santamaria] Unfortunately, as I told your colleague and friend who has just left, we are subject to the decision of the United Nations. The United Nations will soon tell us the site of the next meeting, and what may be [word indistinct] of the same. All I can say is that the process continues, that we are simply re-evaluating what occurred in Caraballeda. Therefore, there will be no preparatory meeting. We will simply start working on a substantial agenda soon.

[Moderator] Dolores Matias, newspaper UNOMASUNO.

[Matias] It seems that opposition to a peace agreement is obvious in different ways. We have seen worrisome symptoms in recent weeks, including an anonymous message threatening restaurants which cater to representatives from international organizations, particularly the United Nations. Also, the press has published communiques against these organizations. Consequently, is there any danger that these groups may preclude a peace agreement? Also, Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary of state for Inter-American Affairs, recently told the Senate that 80 percent agreed on the Armed Forces issue. Why, then, the need for new amendments?

[Santamaria] Yes. First of all, we are about to start a verification process for the human rights agreements that we signed with the FMLN delegation. Within the efforts exerted by the United Nations to establish the mission, it has been mentioned that the government may provide the facilities and the guarantees so that the mission can be established.

The government has told the United Nations that it is willing to start the verification process and the government has authorized the United Nations to start the process whenever it considers appropriate. We have indeed seen publications from certain groups that oppose the presence of the verification mission in the country. We believe that, within the democratic system that exists in El Salvador, everyone has the right to state his views as he wishes. If someone violates the law or oversteps its legal framework, however, the government will have to intervene by imposing justice and enforcing the law whenever this is necessary—because this is not anarchy and no one will be allowed to do as he wishes if it violates the law.

Referring to this, the government states that it will make sure that the verification mission is installed, the mission will be granted the services to which it is entitled as an international mission, and the mission will be given the facilities so that it can carry out its work. We deplore the fact that some groups have failed to understand, or refused to understand, the mission's role, and the fact that their erroneous misinterpretation of the mission's role has resulted in these publications.

[Moderator] Elmer Gomez, ACAN-EFE.

[Santamaria, interrupts] Referring to the statements issued by Mr. Aronson, I understand that he is referring to the progress achieved about the Armed Forces issue. We repeat that the FMLN's interpretation of this is incorrect. We have not recanted. The government endorses the framework of what we have discussed so far and the progress achieved so far. The government has not recanted. We are trying to reach a concerted agreement and, as you know, when talking about a final agreement, the parties involved pay close attention because it is the agreement that will definitely represent the norm on any given issue. Thus, anything concerning observations, amendments, proposals, counterproposals, demands, and counter-demands are part of the dynamics in a discussion. If someone wants to exploit it, he issues a declaration like the one the FMLN has issued in an attempt to pretend that the government is responsible for the lack of progress. Nevertheless, if we see a thing as a whole, the FMLN was the one who had prepared its own agenda so that the Caraballeda process would achieve no results.

[Moderator] Elmer Gomez, ACAN-EFE.

[Gomez] Mr. Minister, is the government really willing to reach a cease-fire agreement by accepting an evaluation—or reorganization—of the Army as the guerrilla delegation requests?

[Santamaria] This is not a secret. The government insists that this issue, meaning the evaluation, has been discussed at length. The government believes that the changes that must be made within the Armed Forces involve re-organization and qualification of its members, for the sake of granting it the alternatives that it needs within the efforts to achieve its professionalization. We might add that anything that concerns the development of the country's institutions concerns us. We must view this as positive given the efforts exerted by the Armed Forces themselves. I would like to emphasize that the role, attitude, and conduct of the Armed Forces have been worthy of our recognition.

The process has advanced this far only because it has enjoyed the support of the Armed Forces. This shows that the Armed Forces are aware that they are also facing changes that are demanded by Salvadoran society. These changes include preparing the institutions, particularly the Armed Forces, for the future according to the proposal we presented at the talks. We proposed that the Armed Forces experience institutional progress consistent with its role in a democratic society. Based on this role, we have said that the institution should undergo overall reorganization, both in the scope and the nature of its members.

[Moderator] Ismael Beltran of EL DIARIO DE HOY.

[Beltran] Doctor, referring to the question asked by a fellow reporter, you said that the process is experiencing a bad time. I noticed the way you emphasized this. Nevertheless, bombs are still being dropped that kill civilians. These civilians surely disagree that the time is right for this process. You also mentioned constitutional reform. I believe, however, that these reforms were not attained by the government, but rather seem to have been achieved by the FMLN. Maybe we say this because we do not know specifically on what points the FMLN has yielded. What have the people gained through the three meetings?

[Santamaria] I mentioned certain actions that have to be accepted as part of the reality. We strongly condemn and disagree with certain violent actions. Unfortunately, it is the civilian population that has made the greatest sacrifice. This is what the FMLN should recognize as part of the probable consequences of shunning the agreements

previously signed. Apart from this, we will not negate the progress of the process. This is recognized by the international community and the Salvadoran people.

After an inter-party commission was created in Geneva, a political dialogue was opened in the country, something never before seen in the various ideological and political trends. For the first time, a broad debate was held because, for the first time, the rightists spoke with the leftists and the centrists spoke with the socialists, the leftists, and the communists, something never before seen in El Salvador. For the first time, the political parties reached a consensus on the electoral process. For the first time, all the legally registered parties participated in an election, something never before seen. As a result of this election, there is pluralist representation. There has been ample opportunity to occupy political space in El Salvador. The Salvadoran people have acquired a political education that enables them to distinguish clearly the trend of their party and the best electoral platform. This has been possible only because of Geneva. All of this would have been impossible without a peace process. All of the others who want to say that this possibility has come out of the blue, will have to forgive me. This is a direct result of the peace process. This has been possible as the result of Geneva. We now have a strengthened political spectrum where all trends are represented and where all political inclinations can raise their voices to say what they think about the country. These are true, tangible facts.

In addition, what we have mentioned has led to a human rights agreement. Yet some insist that constitutional reform still represents nothing for the people. It is a fact that part of the second (?stage) of this process is the elaboration of secondary laws as part of the development of proven constitutional standards, because the second stage, where the secondary laws are developed, is coming. We will see that the government is laying firm foundations based on actions. I do not think—I apologize to those who think otherwise—that, after an 11-year crisis, all that concerns a future framework in the country will have to take place overnight. These things must be constructed progressively and gradually. All of the sectors of the country must join forces. This effort is not exclusive to the government, but to all sectors. All social sectors should join in a single effort. This is why we are addressing a message to the various sectors of the Salvadoran population.

Our objectives are of a general and national interest, not personal interests. Personal objectives are preempted by national and general interests. Therefore, we do believe that the time is right for this process. I wish to describe what the dynamics of the process are. They are what have unleashed these resources and strategies. It is true that the FMLN still has great internal issues to settle, [five-second station break] that opening a definitive path for a cease-fire means the beginning of the end of the war, and that this probably entails many large-scale problems that the FMLN will have to explain. The FMLN, however, cannot ignore that all democracies are being consolidated according to the international vanguard movement. We know for certain that in El Salvador there is a consistent democracy that becomes stronger and stronger every day.

Document Issued

PA0406173991 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 Jun 91

['Text' of final document issued at the conclusion of talks between the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, and government delegations in Caracas, Venezuela dated 2 June—read by announcer]

[Text] The negotiating commissions representing the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, met in Caraballeda, Venezuela from 25 May to 2 June 1991, with the participation of Alvaro de Soto, personal envoy of the UN secretary general. Also present was Marack Goulding, UN assistant secretary general for matters related to the cease-fire.

The talks continued within the framework of the topics agreed upon in Mexico on 27 April 1991 and in accordance with the Caracas agenda, with the intention of achieving a political agreement on the Armed Forces and the necessary agreements for a cease-fire under UN verification.

The parties have agreed to suspend the direct talks for a few days in order to allow consultations within each side, as well as with other sectors, as permitted by the Geneva Convention, political parties, social organizations, and other governments. Those consultations are inherent to the negotiation process, which, therefore, has not been interrupted.

Direct talks will be resumed by the end of the second week of the current month, the place and date will be announced.

The Venezuelan Government has offered its generous and efficient hospitality to the participants in these talks, who express their special thanks to President Carlos Andres Perez.
Caracas, Venezuela, 2 June 1991
The document was signed by the FMLN and government delegates, as well as by representatives from the United Nations.

Political Sectors on Talks

PA0406181691

[Editorial Report] San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 4 June carries several reactions to the end of the peace talks held in Caracas by the Salvadoran Government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN:

The station first carries a four-minute report on remarks by Oscar Santamaria, the government's head negotiator, who blamed the rebel delegation for a lack of substantial

agreement. He said that it is a FMLN maneuver to delay a cease-fire. The station announcer adds: "According to the rebel front, however, the observations made by the government on the UN document obstructed the agreements." With regard to this, Santamaria said in a recording carried by the station: "My government's observations have been aimed at making some changes in style, because we are involved in the drafting of documents that could eventually be finalized. No one should be surprised that a document in its final stages must be drafted in line with some conditions. Such conditions are included in agreements of this sort because of their complexity and sensitivity."

In a two-minute report, the station carries statements by Armando Calderon Sol, president of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, who denied that the government had retreated from its previous stand and added that it will be clear in the new round of talks that the FMLN is the one that opposes peace. Calderon Sol states that he "is optimistic. I think the next meeting will lead to specific results."

The station then carries a three-minute report on the reaction by various unidentified deputies "of the various political sectors represented in the Legistative Assembly." According to the report, the deputies indicated that "the lack of results at the negotiations table is understandable because the final phase of the process makes agreement more difficult." The report states that "most of the opposition deputies believe that there has been a retreat or stagnation on the part of the government, which they blame for the fact that conditions still do not exist for the attainment of peace." In a recorded statement, one deputy adds: "President Cristiani must make an effort and speak with all sectors. He must understand that he has to fulfill the agreements he reached in Mexico regarding the ad hoc commission that was going to be created by the United Nations, the topic of the purge of the Armed Forces and the other topics to which he has presented basic changes in Caracas."

The station carries a one-minute report on a statement issued by Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce, who states that "the FMLN is delaying the attainment of agreements because it wants to reorganize and launch another military offensive." Ponce adds that "the FMLN continues to play with the Salvadoran people's aspirations because it wants to continue the violence." The report concludes by stating: "Meanwhile, Deputy Defense Minister General Orlando Zepeda has stated that the Nicaraguan Sandinist Army recently sent new weapons and military supplies to the FMLN through Honduran territory." No further details of this charge are provided.

In another two-minute report, the station indicates that Christian Democratic Deputy Amanda Villatoro blamed the government for the lack of agreements in the Caracas meeting. She is quoted as stating that the government's presentation of 43 observations to the negotiations agenda diverts attention from the issue of the Armed Forces and in a recorded statement, she adds: "It is noticeable that the military power is above the civilian power. All the retreat in the negotiations have been caused by the fact that the military prevails. The Arena government shares the biggest blame for this situation."

Lack of Agreement Viewed

PA0506041091 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 4 Jun 91 p 2

[Report by special correspondent]

[Text] Caracas, 3 Jun—The terrorists of the FMLN-FDR [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Democratic Revolutionary Front] took a step backward and hardened their stands, impeding a cease-fire with the Salvadoran Government.

This is how the official Salvadoran delegation spokesmen described the futility of the round of talks held in a Caraballeda hotel from 25 May to 2 June.

According to the sources, terrorist leader Shafik Handal had said a few days before the talks that no peace accord would be signed at this meeting. This was interpreted as an a prior condemnation of the negotiations held in a luxurious hotel on the Venezuelan coast.

The members of the terrorist delegation devoted much of their spare time to sampling the delicious food served in the exclusive five-star restaurant in the hotel and basking on the busy beach that on weekends is filled with beautiful women wearing revealing bikinis.

It can be inferred from the remarks by the government delegation spokesmen that no agreement was reached for the following reasons:

1. The FMLN-FDR backed down from the process with their demand to disband the Armed Forces, a point already discussed and agreed upon at the San Jose dialogue.

2. The FMLN attempted to include in the agenda the socio-economic topic, which had not been anticipated.

3. Subversive leader Joaquin Villalobos, considered a key figure in FMLN decisionmaking, did not attend the meeting.

4. The FMLN-FDR wants to use the dialogue to impose Marxism in El Salvador, a system being abandoned throughout the world.

5. The subversives utilized "verbal terrorism" against the Armed Forces during the round of talks.

6. The terrorists tried to introduce points of their political agenda, such as the integration of terrorist forces into the constitutional Army, as well as changes in the government's general and economic policies.

According to the government dialogue commission, most of the FMLN-FDR proposals at the Caraballeda

meeting clash with the democratic system and cannot be conceded by the government without disrupting constitutional order.

"To attempt to become an armed political force undermines the most fundamental democratic principles," the government delegates said.

The Salvadoran Government delegates believe the FMLN-FDR delays signing a cease-fire because it knows its political violence can no longer be justified and it would be demonstrated that there are enough political opportunities for them to participate in El Salvador's political life.

Anticommunists Issue Warning to Establishments

PA0506042891 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] The self-styled Salvadoran Anticommunist Front [FAS] has reiterated its warning to commercial establishments to refrain from serving foreigners who belong to service organizations. The anticommunist group last week distributed flyers at restaurants and other businesses in the Zona Rosa, as well as to the media, warning them against collaborating with internationalists.

The text of the communique is as follows:

Salvadoran Anticommunist Front

As of today, we demand that you refrain from providing service to foreigners or nationals who belong to organizations such as the United Nations, Onusal [UN Observer Group in Central America], Doctors of the World, Doctors Without Frontiers, CICR [International Red Cross Committee], and the UN High Commission for Refugees, or you will be collaborating with internationalists who are conspiring with the communists to occupy our national territory, and you will prompt FAS actions against your business, your person, or your family.

The brief communique bears a circle with a cross in the middle. With regard to the communique, a spokesman for the Armed Forces Press Committee said that there is no official position, but he said that the institution is there to guarantee institutional order and will take action against people who, working on their own, create unrest.

The military spokesman insisted that according to the law, the Army will take action against clandestine organizations that intimidate the population.

Army Blamed

PA0506131591 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0010 GMT 5 Jun 91

[Text] Thousands of leaflets issued by an alleged anticommunist organization are being distributed throughout El Salvador. After looking into this matter, we have confirmed reports that these leaflets were printed at the 1st Infantry Brigade. Our reports add that the text is saved on a hard disk in the computer used by the S-2, the 1st Infantry Brigade's intelligence department, which is responsible for printing and distributing the leaflets as part of a plan to hinder the [words indistinct]. This includes a terrorist campaign against the international organizations that are overseeing the political agreements, which will put an end to the war by demilitarizing society.

The fact that the 1st Infantry Brigade is responsible for distributing these leaflets that threaten stores selling to (?members) of the United Nations or the International Red Cross explains [words indistinct] in the Zona Rosa and the area around the 1st Infantry Brigade [words indistinct]. This type of action was denounced earlier at the U.S. Congress by (?Gregorio Martinez), who accused Colonel Francisco Elena Fuentes of masterminding all these activities.

The FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] holds Col. Elena Fuentes responsible for this whole terrorist campaign aimed at creating an inappropriate environment for the political negotiations and for reaching agreements between the FMLN and Cristiani's government. The recent statements of Col. Elena Fuentes, involving opposition political parties with the FMLN is part of this whole terrorist campaign to hinder the negotiations.

In future casts, we will continue to provide you with more information on this terrorist plan orchestrated by Col. Elena Fuentes from the headquarters of the 1st Infantry Brigade.

Honduras

Callejas Denies Granting Amnesty to Rebels

PA0406014791 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 30 May 91 p 3

[Report by Armando Villanueva]

[Text] Yesterday, President Leonardo Callejas said that the return of members of the "Cinchonero" People's Liberation Forces does not mean that "bygones will be bygones," because his government has not approved a general amnesty that would mean a pardon for repatriated groups.

The president first condemned and voiced his "grave concern" over the attack on former "Cinchonero" Commander Roger Eludin Rosales, who legally returned to Tegucigalpa on 10 May. Callejas explained that a misunderstanding exists regarding the government's policy to facilitate the return of expatriates to the country.

In this respect, he said that "we have not granted a general amnesty," but those Hondurans who were abroad were told that the country was ready to welcome them with open arms, but that they were subject to "all the legal actions that any other citizen may file against them for any reason."

"I get the impression that the perception here is inaccurate because we have not granted an amnesty, we have not pardoned anyone, and we do not have to. This is not a matter of letting bygones be bygones." The president also noted that the repatriated "Cinchoneros" are not facing charges on any counts and that in order for a pardon to be granted, a conviction must exist.

The president is fully supporting the former "Cinchoneros" and says that he is concerned over the attack on Roger Eludin Rosales. On this matter, he said "we asked the Honduran Armed Forces to protect him," and added that, once Rosales recovers, he hopes to talk to him to learn what happened.

The government, however, has not changed its stance and is always interested in listening to the former rebels and contributing to their well-being; they must have the rights and duties of any citizen. Regarding the attack on Rosales, Callejas felt that this sort of action does not benefit our new society, although some people realize that they must participate in the changes taking place in the country.

"The criminal action was a surprise to me" because it could have had other repercussions, for example, the Armed Forces could have been blamed if Roger Eludin Rosales had been killed in the attack, he noted. The people and the groups opposed to the military institution, would have immediately accused the military of the murder. "Thank God the man survived and was able to clearly say that another "Cinchonero" member had carried out the attack," the president said. The president noted that all Honduran sectors must reflect on this because the country is not in any condition to deal with this kind of situation, because it is immersed in the reconstruction of the economy and in the transformation of society. "Some groups are promoting instability, and those attacks are really deplorable," Callejas stated.

Commenting on the "Lorenzo Zelaya" Revolutionary People's Command, which seeks to return to the country if a general and broad amnesty decree is issued, the president noted that "we are prepared to hold talks with all those sectors that want to rejoin the country's mainstream." Callejas explained, however, that their return will take place under the conditions perviously outlined.

"We will talk with them. I am very willing to set up a dialogue commission to participate in the return of these groups to civilian and peaceful life, to Honduran society," Callejas remarked. Within the same context, the president said that he agrees with groups that complain that the amnesty decree approved by the National Congress on 12 December has not produced the expected results.

When a meeting with farmers was held, a partial amnesty was proposed that was aimed at covering peasants convicted under the Antiterrorist Law. Many sectors, the farmers included, erroneously thought many peasants were in prison, but the figure turned out to be small. Callejas did mention that he hoped the National Congress would be more understanding of the aspirations of the government and peasant groups on this matter. Although he felt the demand was just, he said the deputies will not heed this request until the next phase of the current legislatative period.

Callejas met in the afternoon with Armed Forces Chief General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir to discuss the request by the "Lorenzo Zelaya" Revolutionary People's Command and the attack on Roger Eludin Rosales.

Nicaragua

Government Issues Decree on Assets Ownership

PA0506012791 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 May 91 p 7

[Presidential Decree No. 23-91, issued at the Presidential Palace in Managua on 24 May]

[Text] Whereas:

I. In pursuit of the country's economic development and within the spirit of respect for the rights of others, it has become absolutely necessary to clarify, organize, and provide legal security to property and guarantee ownership to the legitimate owners; in line with the stipulated terms of the government program and the agreements reached as part of the Economic and Social Concerted Effort.

II. Specifically, as a means of complying with commitments made in the government program, the president of the Republic issued Decree No. 11-90 on the Review of Confiscations, in order to review and resolve where possible the problem of assets unjustly seized by the previous administration.

III. The most excellent Supreme Court of Justice, on 17 May 1991, declared that parts of said Decree 11-90 were unconstitional, and annulled provisions relating to the decisionmaking functions [funciones resolutorias] of the National Revision Commission on the grounds that those functions are properly within the purview of the judiciary.

IV. It is not possible to leave unresolved the cases of all those people who presented their claims in time, thereby complying with the administrative procedures established by Decree 11-90. Those cases must be reviewed and resolved.

V. The ruling of partial unconstitutionality issued by the Supreme Court of Justice should, therefore, not affect the president's firm and resolute determination to fulfill the commitment to review, and where possible, return property that was unjustly confiscated,

The president of the Republic of Nicaragua, therefore, exercising the powers conferred by the Constitution, decrees:

Article 1. All provisions of Decree 11-90, which have not been affected by Ruling No. 27, issued by the most

excellent Supreme Court of Justice at 0830 on 17 May 1991, declaring part of Decree 11-90 unconstitutional, remain in effect.

Article 2. The government's decision and determination to return unjustly seized assets or to compensate their previous owners for the value of such assets is hereby ratified.

Article 3. The return of state assets that has already taken place, as long as it has involved the proper authorities and followed procedures specified in Decree 11-90 and does not affect third parties, will be honored.

Article 4. Those who were told by the National Review Commission that their seized assets would be returned, but who have not yet received them, should go to the Attorney General's Office, where they will be told which state institutions will determine the viability of such a return or the valuation of such assets, as the case may be, and proceed to make the legal transfer or payment.

Article 5. To control this process and legalize these assets, those who, for one reason or another, benefited from the return of any asset that was under state control or in state possession without having complied with the requisites specified in Article 3 of this decree, or did not receive a transfer document or title deed, must go to the Attorney General's Office to obtain full legalization, as the case may be. As long as this is not formalized, it is understood that the state continues to be the owner of such assets.

Article 6. In compliance with a Supreme Court ruling, it is recognized that it is not the within the scope of the executive branch to resolve controversies that involve interests or rights among private citizens, because this authority is exclusive to the judicial branch. As for the returns, the executive branch may only dispose of those assets that are under its control or in its possession.

Article 7. Jurisdictional rulings contained in resolutions issued by the National Review Commission lack legality. The commission's resolutions will serve as recommendations for the executive branch.

Article 8. An inventory of all requests for review filed at the Attorney General's Office will be immediately conducted. A team of experts on computer science and personnel matters, which will be responsible to the Presidency, will be established. This team must submit, as soon as possible, a full report on the situation to the president of the Republic.

Article 9. After the aforementioned report is received, there will be an immediate review and prompt decisions on the requests filed in a strictly administrative procedure.

Article 10. In complying with Articles 8 and 9, the president of the Republic will reassign the duties of the members of the National Review Commission and reveal which state institutions will determine the viability of the return or distribution of assets.

Article 11. Only state institutions that are duly authorized by the Presidency will be able to return or distribute assets that are under state control or in state possession.

Article 12. The Finance Ministry will establish, as soon as possible, a payment system to match the value of the assets that cannot be returned and submit it for consideration of the Presidency.

Article 13. The president of the Republic is empowered to regulate Decree 11-90 and these provisions, if deemed to be necessary.

Article 14. This decree will be in effect upon its publication in any media notwithstanding its subsequent publication in LA GACETA, the official organ.
Issued in Managua at the Presidential Palace on 24 May 1991
Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic

Lacayo on Land Distribution

PA0506025791 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 31 May 91 pp 1, 8

[Text] Nicaraguan Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo told the National Assembly's Special Commission on Property on 30 May that the government will not return land to its former owners that the revolution gave to peasants and that the government "will continue to apply the agrarian reform program." Responding to a question asked by Deputy Nicolas Bolanos Geyer, who also owned confiscated property and who endorsed a proposal to abolish Laws 85 and 86, Lacayo replied that this particular case "is closed."

"You are only confirming to me that everyone has interpreted UNO's [National Opposition Unity] government plan differently, because the pledges you mention were never made," Lacayo told Bolanos.

The problem of the confiscation of property formerly owned by "approximately 35,000 Nicaraguans and their families should not be set above the problem of poverty, which affects 50 percent of the population, or that of health, which affects 100 percent of the people," the minister said.

Lacayo invited the deputies to help settle the property problem and refrain from legislating to resolve personal disagreements, "which are under judicial jurisdiction alone." Yesterday, he urged the Assembly to make a concerted effort to "clarify the legal framework" and establish mechanisms so that those who received property through Laws 85 and 86 or those who benefited by Decree 11-90, are harmed.

He explained to the Property Commission that the land expropriated since 1979 represented only 29.4 percent—2,350,000—of the country's 8 million manzanas of agricultural, cattle-raising, and forested land. Half of this land was handed over to cooperatives, 200,000 manzanas to individual producers, and 650,000 manzanas to state corporations. During the transition, 300,000 more manzanas were designated for cooperatives and private producers. At

present, 52.4 percent of the land is in private hands and 19.4 percent is owned by the state.

"This extension of land is not enough to create chaos in the country. A majority of the Nicaraguan people understand that, in many instances, only compensatory payment would apply. The property of some can be returned. Others will have to content themselves with compensatory payment," he said.

The government owns a large number of properties, including land, real estate, and commercial and tourist installations with which it can make fair compensatory payments to all whose property cannot be returned, Lacayo said. The minister declared himself "deeply loyal" to the transition protocol, the UNO government program, and the concerted effort accords.

In response to Deputies Bolanos, Azucena Ferrey, and Fernando Zelaya, who have acted on behalf of those whose properties had been confiscated, Lacayo read a paragraph of the UNO program which states that the distribution of land established by the Agrarian Reform will be honored.

The Transition Protocol and Laws 85 and 86 "play an important role because both of them deal with property ownership. Nevertheless, the political willingness reflected by the protocol, which will continue to be implemented, is one thing, the legal aspect is quite another," he said.

Lacayo said that the laws should not be labeled fair or unfair because it is their legal validity that counts. It should be admitted that Laws 85 and 86 were enacted within the legal framework that existed at the time.

In response to Sergio Ramirez, head of the Sandinist faction, Lacayo said that the government will stick to its pledge not to return the properties confiscated from Somozists, in accordance with Decrees 3 and 38, except for exceptional cases that merit revision.

The government will continue to implement the Agrarian Reform Program, as shown by the decision to release to workers a sizable portion of the land owned by Hatonic [state-owned cattle enterprise], Agroexco [State Cotton, Peanut, and Sesame Production Company], and Cafenic [Nicaraguan National Coffee Growers Union].

Out of a total of 450,000 manzanas of land, 317,000—70 percent—will be released to corporate workers and those demobilized from the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] and the Nicaraguan Resistance. Lacayo's remarks fell like a bucket of cold water on Deputies Alfredo Cesar, Ferrey, Zelaya, and Bolanos.

The reporters noted that Property Commission President Cesar was the only commission member who did not ask Lacayo any questions. The day before, Cesar openly criticized Lacayo for his decision to hire U.S. Attorney Paul Richler, who for years had been an adviser to the Sandinist government.

Asked about the case of the state-owned Hacienda Quimichapa, allegedly "handed over" by UNO Deputy Nardo Sequeira, Lacayo appeared "surprised that two people, who do not represent the president, disposed of this property in a clear abuse of authority." Lacayo said that he suspects that this is not the only such case and that the government has received reports of similar "hand-overs" by various mayoralties.

"We are going to take measures through the Prosecutor General's Office to reclaim ownership of Hacienda Quimichapa and release the land to the Nicaraguan resistance, to illustrate that the release of this property by Sequeira is illegal and undermines the nation's stability. Such an action is unacceptable," Lacayo finally stated.

Panama

Arias Calderon Rejects Alliance With Arnulfists

PA0306014191 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Jun 91 p 1A

[Text] Yesterday, opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderon rejected the possibility of reconciliation between Arnulfists and Christian Democrats, which would allow them to rule together again, as proposed by acting Arnulfist Party President Francisco Artola.

Differences between the Christian Democrats and the government on various political issues are so deep that "I see no way of achieving what the Arnulfist Party president has stated," Calderon said.

This is the first time since President Guillermo Endara decided to break the government alliance on 8 April, that the Arnulfist Party considered the possibility of settling the dispute between the two political organizations so that they might once again share power.

Arias Calderon said that if the government wants to talk with the Christian Democrats, the first topic must concern the need for a policy to solve the social debt problem, meaning "that the government must pay the 13th-month bonus, make new proposals concerning Social Security, and formulate an overall plan for economic development and modernization."

"They are entirely mistaken when they speak of a reorganizing the cabinet, as if we are talking about public posts," the opposition leader said.

Arias Calderon denied rumors of a possible PDC [Christian Democratic Party]-PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] alliance to win the Legislative Assembly presidency in the next elections.

He said that this type of campaign, claiming that the PDC is considering an alliance with various parties, is a result of the political situation created by President Endara when he expelled the PDC from his government.

"When the decision was adopted it provoked a situation in the Legislative Assembly because there is no stable legislative majority. The PDC has 28 Assembly legislators, the parties which still endorse Endara's government

have 27 legislators, and former followers of the dictatorship have 12 deputies," he explained.

Arias Calderon added: "Given the situation prevailing in the Legislative Assembly, the people's imagination leads them to speculate about possible alliances among all the different factions."

The politician added: "We warned that, following his decision, Endara had turned his administration into a minority government, giving the PRD new political options."

He also emphasized that this is not a problem about positions in the executive branch or the Legislative Assembly's Directorate Board. Instead, it is a matter of finding solutions for the Panamanian people, "and the PDC will continue to follow those guidelines, just as it did when it was part of the government."

Decree Limits Security Council's Operations

PA0306013791 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Jun 91 p 1-A

[Report by Jose Quintero De Leon]

[Text] In a swift political maneuver, and before the ad hoc commission that was created to investigate the purpose of the Council for Public Security and National Defense directed by Menalco Solis, the Presidency of the Republic has issued Executive Decree No. 98, which details the controversial council's functions.

The ad hoc commission, chaired by Christian Democratic Legislator Gloria Moreno de Lopez, is drafting a bill to regulate the functions of the security council, which had been described on various occasions as the new "presidential G-2."

Decree No. 98 develops Article 16 of Cabinet Decree No. 38 of 10 February 1991. The new decree states that the ministers of government, planning, and foreign relations must meet with the president of the Republic to form an advisory group for matters pertaining to public order.

This consultative body will be called the Council for Public Security and National Defense (CSPDN) [Consejo de Seguridad Publica y Defensa Nacional—Conasepuden]. Its executive secretary will be a regular member receiving orders from the president. He will be designated by the Presidency Ministry and will bear the rank of presidential adviser.

Decree No. 98 states that in carrying out his functions, the executive secretary of the CSPDN will answer only to the president of the Republic.

Among the prohibitions stipulated for the CSPDN and its employees are political espionage, direct or indirect participation in partisan political activities, the use of weapons during work hours except in cases of personal defense, and arrests or searches.

Additionally, the CSPDN will not be allowed to conduct searches at commercial facilities or offices, enter private homes without the owner's consent, arrest or detain anyone, conduct forceful interrogations, or summon or force anyone to appear at its office against their will.

The CSPDN is also banned from preventing any citizen from moving freely throughout national territory, hindering or participating in the hindrance of free expression of thought, demanding the payment of contributions or imposing fines, hindering a person's right to vote, or supporting candidates for public posts.

In general, the CSPDN is barred from infringing upon citizens' guaranteed and fundamental rights, or any other activity that may go against citizens' physical and moral integrity, dignity, and property.

With regard to the CSPDN's functions, Decree No. 98 explains that its Executive Secretariat will keep the president of the Republic informed as to the preservation of public order and any events or circumstances that may endanger public security and national defense, crimes against the state's legal status, terrorism, drug trafficking, and the collective safety of all citizens.

Police Search for Alleged Rebels Near Border

PA0406022891 Panama City EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 3 Jun 91 p 23

[Report by Lionel Blaisdell]

[Text] During the 1-2 June weekend, the National Police, in combat gear, increased their patrols in the dense jungle border area between Panama and Colombia to try to capture 40 heavily armed rebels seen prowling around the Manene Mountains, Darien Province, according to the authorities.

Porfirio Solis, a foreigner who was traveling in that area with his wife and child, reported to the Public Force stationed in La Palma that he saw approximately 40 armed men with pistols and machine guns moving around in Manene, Panamanian territory that borders with Santa Monica, Colombia.

Solis, 38, a Colombian national with residency permit number E- 051485, has told the local authorities that he fears that the armed rebels could be members of a guerrilla group that has illegally crossed the border area with Colombia.

A Spanish news agency version reports possible "guerrilla commandos," but Panama National Police Director Gonzalo Menendez Franco denies that these are "insurgents." Menendez Franco said that this incident is being investigated; he did not rule out that the men could be "smugglers or drug traffickers," if Solis' story is confirmed.

Darien Province Governor Lesbia de Alarcon told EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE over the telephone that she had received the La Palma Police Force report describing Solis' story.

Alarcon added that Captain Meliton, Darien Province police chief, "is currentely engaged in an operation to capture—if there actually are any rebels—the alleged infiltrators.

Alarcon said that these could possibly be lumber smugglers, therefore, she has advised the Inrenare [Institute of Renewable Natural Resources] authorities, as well as the Government and Justice Ministry, in case the men turn out to be drug traffickers.

A spokesman [not further identified] said that Solis' story might involve Revolutionary Liberation Forces of Colombia [Fuerzas Revolucionarias de Liberacion Colombiana (FRLC)] [as published] and did not rule out a possible connection to former military members of the Noriega regime. Nevertheless, up until now, Panamanian authorities have rejected this possibility.

Students End Hunger Strike; Taken to Hospital

PA0106014791 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 May 91 pp 1-A, 14-A

[Article by Hemes Sucre Serrano]

[Text] Tito Libio Martinez, Alexis Cuevas, and Victor Rodriguez, three university students who had been on a hunger strike since 21 May to protest the Law 11 reforms package, called off their vigil on 29 May. They said that they would continue their struggle from their classrooms.

The decision to call off the hunger strike was made on the night of 28 May during a leadership meeting of the University Student Coordination Board, which declared itself openly opposed to the modification of the law that governs the university.

In a news conference on 29 May, Coordination Board spokesman Raul Rios explained that the strikers had been taken to the Santa Fe Hospital because the 192 consecutive hours of fasting had affected their health and their situation might worsen in the coming hours.

The student leader stated that the strike was called off for humanitarian reasons, and he reiterated the students' resolve to continue the struggle to prevent the privatization of the university and the loss of the people's achievements in the field of higher education.

Referring to Law 6, which modifies the university's academic and administrative structure, Rios said that "it contains many loopholes" and areas that reflect the government's interest in closing the university. "There is confusion regarding the electoral process," he added.

Rios stressed that the students will not fall victim to provocation, on the contrary, a series of consultations have been scheduled to seek a solution. "We have given an example of dignity and we will not be tricked by provocations," he pointed out.

The striking students were visited by Dean Justo Medrano, who inquired about their health and about their aspirations in the struggle for university autonomy.

Argentina

Menem on Support, Decentralization, U.S. Donation

PY0406213191 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2334 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Mendoza, 1 Jun (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has asserted here that the majority of the Argentine people "support the policy implemented by the government, not just since [Economy and Public Works Minister Domingo] Cavallo's time but right from the beginning when we talked about state reform, the opening of our economy, a market economy, and the elimination of foreign exchange control."

Menem noted that, as a result of this policy, "our fiscal accounts over these past two months have balanced and this has allowed us to continue to grow and to develop the Argentine peoples' economic potential."

Chatting with local journalists in the small movie theater at the 4th Air Brigade, Menem noted the significance of having dedicated that first stage of what will be the Nuclear Medicine School and recalled that the government had put up $30 million to equip it.

He asserted that the central government will continue to support the construction "of the school until it is completed because it is essential to peoples' health."

Accompanied by Governor Jose Octavio Bordon and Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa, President Menem added: "All national executive branch ministers enjoy strong support."

Regarding the Lujan Treaty or the new "Federal Pact," which was signed last year, Menem explained that it is being fulfilled gradually and that once the current liberalization process has been completed "the provinces, as is appropriate, will take charge of exploiting hydrocarbons."

Menem said: "The mere fact that this government has returned the ownership of this type of assets to the provinces is a very significant step toward the implementation of a federal system which the people constantly seek."

Menem added that he gave the economic team precise instructions to reach an agreement with the provinces to "gradually settle accounts (payment of royalties) through compensation, or anything else that may be useful, to settle the great debt that the nation has with the provinces and, in many cases, that the provinces have with the nation."

Menem confirmed: "Talks on this subject are currently intense and I hope they will become more fruitful."

He added: "Dialogue on the subject of hydrocarbons is constant and permanent" adding that he hopes that "a just decision will be reached that does not harm either the provinces or the nation."

Menem commented: "We are talking with Argentine citizens, not with enemies or with sectors of various communities."

Referring to industrial development, Menem said: "The businessmen will determine the sectors or segments, and they are the ones that will be risking their capital" while the national government will only "set the ground rules to guarantee the investments made in Argentina."

He said that the people agree with "state reform and the opening of the economy, which benefits Argentina by having helped to get rid of chaos and thus helped to create a sort of order and a precarious stability, but a stability after all. We fully agree on this and whenever we have problems we will overcome them through dialogue."

Regarding U.S. Ambassador Terence Todman's presence in Mendoza, Menem said: "We must not forget that the equipment installed in the School of Nuclear Medicine was donated by the U.S. Government and it is only logical that the U.S. ambassador should be here."

When asked about a war threat [not further specified], Menem said: "In my opinion this possibility has been completely ruled out and there are no threats of war," adding that if there is a conflict "Argentina will always be prepared to defend its territory."

Regarding the situation of the railway workers who have asked to be retired, he explained that "they will collect the corresponding pay for voluntary retirement."

Menem said it is "quite likely" that "some workers will have to be dismissed ... very few", and explained that "those who are dismissed will receive severance pay."

He added: "Some 4,000 railway workers who received a telegram notifying them of their dismissal are being reinstated, and those who are not reinstated will receive severance pay."

On this subject, Menem concluded: "These are the instructions I have given the members of the economic team."

Referring to the legal proceedings over cases of drug trafficking, Menem said: "Argentine judges, not Carlos Menem, have said that the Yoma family is not involved in drug trafficking or in narco-dollars, and we still have to see what the Spanish judges say upon the conclusion of the legal proceedings that are currently under way in that country."

He said that all charges of corruption in Argentina published in a Spanish magazine are "a disgrace like many other charges made in other parts of the world."

Menem added: "Those who publish this type of scandal are the only ones to benefit from them. They have not assumed responsibility for them and they have not had the courage to come here to make the charges."

The chief of state said: "The era of bombs is over. There are no more bombs, there are no more attacks," unlike "the case in other parts of Europe, in Spain itself, in France or in Italy [as received], where ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty] has done so much harm. Only a few days ago a bomb exploded at the headquarters of the Spanish Civil Police, causing many deaths."

President Menem wondered: "Why is it that the Spanish media do not denounce this type of corruption, the worse type of corruption, that is, to attack and destroy the lives of our fellow men."

Finally, talking about "Los Nihuiles" Dam and its transfer [to either Mendoza Province or La Pampa Province], Menem said: "As the talks and negotiations progress we hope to solve this problem that affects the people of Mendoza, but we must not forget the La Pampa provincial government, which is also involved in this conflict."

Nuclear Medicine Facility Dedicated; Unity Urged

PY0406213391 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1803 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Excerpts] Mendoza, 1 Jun (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has reiterated his desire that "all Argentines" cooperate with the government, without asking "which political party they support or their ideological leaning," because "for the time being I do not want to talk about politics but about Argentina's problems and needs."

Menem made this statement today while dedicating a postgraduate Nuclear Medicine School. Mendoza Governor Jose Bordon and Manuel Mondino, head of the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA) also delivered speeches.

Menem said: "We Argentines must harshly criticize the crisis that we have endured for more than 30 years" which is "like the parable of the Prodigal Son, in that we have squandered the wealth that our ancestors accumulated."

"The time has arrived for all Argentines to start working for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and ourselves, no matter the ideological leanings," he added. [passage omitted]

The creation of the postgraduate Nuclear Medicine School was coordinated by the CNEA, the Mendoza government, and the Cuyo University.

This modern and international scientific center will be used to train personnel. It will also be used to investigate certain heart diseases, the central nervous system, and cancerous tumors, focusing on patients' conduct and behavior.

The Mendoza Province financed the construction of the building, which cost nearly $3 million and the equipment, worth approximately $30 million, was provided by the Argentine Government through the CNEA.

Armed Forces Financial Problems Explained

PY2805200791 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 May 91

[Text] Speaking in Santiago del Estero, Defense Under Secretary Francisco Cerro said that those sectors of the Armed Forces who maintain that the country is being demilitarized and will be left unprotected are unaware that strategic peace areas are being promoted and that the country's safety is not at risk.

Referring to criticism over the dismantling of the Condor 2 project, Cerro—who spend a few days in this province—said that some sectors of the media have violated state secrets. He emphasized that Argentina currently implements a foreign policy of promoting friendship, not one that seeks enemies. He mentioned the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] as an example of a strategic peace area and said that the government will continue to promote it.

Cerro then moved on to a subject of concern to many mothers these days; he admitted that the financial problems are the greatest obstacle for the reorganization of the Armed Forces, adding that the reorganization will probably take a decade. He said that each draftee costs $1,200 per year to maintain.

Referring to the delay in demobilizing the draftees currently doing their military service and in drafting the next group, Cerro said that the main problem is that the financial situation is so bad that the Armed Forces are unable to finance the medical inspection. He said, however, that Defense Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez is already aware of the problem and intends to solve it in the next few weeks.

* UIA Leadership's Stance on Key Issues Viewed

91SM0316A Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 May 91 p 4

[Text] The main policies of the new authorities in the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA), led by Israel Mahler, are designed to invigorate the domestic market, impart an aggressive export tilt to industry, and give priority to productive investment.

They acknowledge that they share the Cavallo Plan's goal of stability and that there have been positive signs as regards taxes, interest rates, and lower rates for public services. They add, however, that Argentina has a long way to go before it is on the path to investment. They say that it would be naive to spur an all-out "open-door policy" in a world in which the main economic powers protect their industries. They are in favor of integrating the countries of the Southern Cone, but not blindly, as has been the case so far.

They are critical of privatizations because they have not taken into account the goals of improving services, lowering rates, and bringing in fresh investment. They contend that the real exchange rate is lagging behind and

that it ought to be raised by lowering costs (rates for public services, taxes). They stress that industrial promotion is a valid economic-policy tool.

They say that the financial system is not oversized but rather that the real economy is "too small." They advocate comprehensive labor and social-security reform and oppose many of the clauses in the employment law passed by the Senate. They call for amending the occupational-accidents, retirement, and collective-bargaining law.

Theirs is a comprehensive program on which they will seek a consensus with the other sectors of the economy and with the government.

Positions of the New UIA Leadership

Tax System

Taxes should not impact production costs but rather distributed business profits. Productive assets must not be taxed. Suitable economic conditions must be created to bring back capital now overseas and to encourage the arrival of new capital.

Exchange Rate

The exchange rate must be in line with production costs. The actual exchange rate is currently low in terms of the prices of public services, taxes on earned income, and taxes in general. The proper approach is not to boost the nominal value of the exchange rate but to align the general costs and conditions of the economy with international ones.

Government-Provided Services

The local price of gas is double what it is in Brazil and is higher than in the United States, Canada, Venezuela, etc. Our electricity is the most expensive in the world. Government must intervene to bring these prices in line with those in the rest of the world.

Tariffs

The industrialized countries protect their industries, especially motor vehicles, electronics, and textiles. We must not be so naive as to believe that an antidumping law will solve our problems. There is a worldwide glut, with international prices lower than domestic ones. The current tariffs are not consistent with the taxes that are part of domestic goods (at least 20 percent). Imports are being promoted in Argentina today.

Mercosur [Southern Cone Common Market] Integration

The goal of integration can be none other than to strengthen the countries involved. When asymmetries are not taken into account in implementing this arrangement, the goal is delayed or distorted. Institutions that bring the economies of the region into line are needed.

Privatizations

State-run enterprises are transferred for specific purposes: to improve service and make it competitive, heavier investment. So far, these objectives have not been taken into account in the privatizations. Private management alone does not suffice.

Credit

There is no modern economy without a strong financial system. The banking system has been distorted by the rise of financial speculation. The shift to a production economy will make for more australes in circulation and will reorient the financial circuit.

Industrial Promotion

This ought to be reconsidered. It is a valid economic-policy tool. Vices and abuses must be eliminated; the companies that enjoy these benefits must be given an answer, and a consistent solution that takes the shortage of tax revenues into account must be developed.

Investment

Investment is attracted by creating favorable conditions. The various incentives are subordinate to the economy being oriented towards production.

Foreign Trade

Elimination of the statistics tax (three percent) on freight charges (one percent). Urgent regulation of the tax rebate and the payment of Bocrex [foreign bonds]. If the State cannot redeem Bocrex, they should be refinanced and be usable to pay debts, taxes, etc.

Labor Laws

A system that does not hurt industry and that does not impair the rights of the workers either must be found. We advocate a modification of the occupational-accidents and collective-bargaining law and changes in the employment law passed by the Senate.

Correction to Iranian Subway Proposal Announced

PY0306034091

The following correction pertains to the item headlined, "Subway Proposal Announced," published in the 31 May Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 24:

Column one, ninth full paragraph, only sentence, make read: ...pellets, rice, sunflower oil, iron products, and.... (supplying missing word "oil")

Bolivia

New Extradition Treaty With U.S. Opposed

PY0406184291 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 May 91 p 7

[Text] Wilson Lora, president of the Chamber of Deputies Committee on the Struggle Against Drug Trafficking, has said that he is against signing a treaty to extradite Bolivian drug traffickers to the United States to stand trial in that country.

Lora pointed out that a bilateral treaty of this kind "would unleash a wave of violence in the country, with serious consequences for democratic stability." The committee believes Bolivia could become another Colombia if such a treaty is signed.

Lora believes that the extradition of Bolivian drug traffickers to the United States could lead the criminals to organize armed gangs or to give arms to coca growers to defend themselves.

Lora added: "I am not aware of the government position, but I am sure it will agree with us."

Deputy Guillermo Richter of the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] said: "Such a treaty would be equivalent to calling for violence."

Acting through Deputy Jorge Medina, the Condepa [Conscience of the Fatherland] congressional bloc rejected the plan. Medina stated that drug traffickers should be tried where they committed their crimes and on the basis of national laws.

Congressmen considered the visit by DEA chief Robert Bonner to be direct pressure on the Bolivian Government to accept an extradition treaty.

Robert Martinez, another U.S. Government narcotics official, arrived in Bolivia on 16 May. Both Martinez and Bonner held confidential meetings with President Jaime Paz Zamora and high government officials, but the issues discussed were not disclosed.

Opposition politicians believe the government would be making a serious mistake if it "once more" gives in to U.S. pressure in the struggle against drug trafficking. They said they would oppose such a treaty.

Early this century (1904), Bolivia and the United States signed a treaty for the extradition of a known criminal who held up banks, trains, and stagecoaches in the U.S. Old West but who then escaped and sought refuge in Bolivia. The issue never came up again until a few years ago when drug trafficking became a serious crime.

'Shining Path' Raids Into Ulla Ulla Reported

PY0106223291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0053 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] La Paz, 21 May (EFE)—The Peruvian terrorist group "Shining Path" is making sporadic incursions into Bolivian territory to rest. This was confirmed today by La Paz Department Prefect Fernando Cajias.

Cajias stated that most of the Shining Path incursions are taking place in the region near the town of Ulla Ulla, a border town located at about 300 km north of La Paz.

Cajias said that according to an investigation carried out in the area in the last few days, Shining Path has virtually taken over the Peruvian region located accros from Ulla Ulla and that even the Shining Path red flag can be seen flying.

Two weeks ago, Bolivian Army troops were deployed to the border region to stop Shining Path, which had engaged in clashes with Peruvian police, from entering Bolivian territory.

Bolivian military authorities have admitted that they are exchanging information on Shining Path movements with their Peruvian colleagues.

Peru and Bolivia share a border totalling 1,131 km. There are few border posts and one third of the border passes through either the high plateau or the mountain region where the Maoist group Shining Path centers its activities.

Brazil

Possible Military Agreement With U.S. Denied

PY0306195391 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2333 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] Brasilia, 31 May (EFE)—Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek said today that Brazil is not negotiating with its three Common Market of the South (Mercosur) partners a military agreement with the United States.

"I do not know what is happening in Buenos Aires, but there is nothing being said about it in Brasilia" Rezek told a reporter who asked about press reports that Brazil, Uruguay, and Paraguay are negotiating a military agreement with the United States.

According to GAZETA MERCANTIL, the United States is taking advantage of the integration initiative among the four countries to propose new mechanisms for military coexistence which "must consider the Argentine-Brazilian axis and the disposition to form blocs."

In the last few weeks Brazilian military chiefs have expressed disagreement over the possible negotiation of a military agreement with the United States.

There has been no military cooperation treaty between the two countries since 1976 when Brazil broke a 25-year-old treaty because of disagreements over the human rights policy of the Jimmy Carter administration.

The Brazilian Armed Forces view with concern the growing U.S. military presence in the Andean countries in the struggle against drug trafficking.

Military Accord With U.S. To Be Supported

PY0406181691 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Jun 91 p 11

[Pedro Paulo Rezende report]

[Text] Brasilia—Despite official denials, military sources are insisting that President Fernando Collor's upcoming visit to the United States is another step toward resuming talks on a military-technological agreement within the framework of a protocol of intent signed in Brasilia in 1984 by then U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Brazilian Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira.

Secretary of Strategic Affairs Pedro Paulo Leone Ramos visited Washington last week but has said that he is not involved in the negotiations. Military sources stated, however, that he was on an advanced mission to arrange details of the agreement, the main sponsors of which are Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek and Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira, according to the sources.

The ministers believe that military cooperation with the United States is the price Brazil must pay to enter the First World. The alignment with Washington could also eliminate another source of friction with the United States: The export of military industry products to countries that the United States considers "unreliable."

Rezek has clearly outlined this viewpoint in meetings with military men. The foreign minister has even mentioned an inclination to give up building a nuclear submarine. This statement has put him in disagreement with Navy Minister Mario Cesar Flores.

While Rezek has clearly expressed his support for the U.S. wishes, the military ministers are wondering about the wisdom of the new policy endorsed by Itamaraty. They claim that Brazil has made many concessions but has received little in return, citing examples like the attempted purchase of a supercomputer by Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company], which the U.S. executive branch and Congress vetoed on five occasions.

Government Fears Loss of Influence in Angola

PY0506003491 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Jun 91 p 36

[Mario Chimanovitch report]

[Text] Tel Aviv—The pacification of Angola is causing concern at Itamaraty, which supported the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) for several years by recognizing the government installed in Luanda after the withdrawal of the Portuguese colonial power.

Brazilian diplomats fear Brazil may substantially lose its influence in that country and generally, in that region of Africa if general elections are held. The elections could give Jonas Savimbi, chief of UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), which is the main MPLA rival and pro-West and whose guerrillas were financed by the United States and South Africa, a considerable portion of the political power.

In light of the new situation, Brazilian diplomacy, which is considered among the best in the world, is now aimed—perhaps a bit late—at maintaining as much influence as possible in the new Angola. Itamaraty will send a team of diplomats to London to hold discreet meetings with Jonas Savimbi next week.

According to diplomatic sources in the Middle East, Ambassador Paulo de Tarso Flecha de Lima has already met with Savimbi in London. He is the ambassador who was entrusted by Itamaraty with the task of negotiating with Iraq for visas allowing Brazilian workers and technicians to leave that country just before the Persian Gulf war. The presence of the diplomatic team in London will give continuity to Itamaraty efforts to maintain good relations with the UNITA leader.

EEC Authorizes Exports for 'Indefinite Period'

PY0106214691 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Brazil will continue to export meat to Europe. During his trip to Europe, Agriculture Minister Antonio Cabrera was informed that the EEC Agriculture Commissioner's office, which can be compared to a regional agriculture ministry, has authorized the entrance of Brazilian exports for an indefinite period.

This was authorized in view of a report on the quality of Brazilian meat that was submitted by Agriculture Minister Antonio Cabrera. The report states that laboratory tests have improved and that Brazilian cattle ranchers have ceased to use hormones to fatten cattle.

[Begin Cabrera recording] All EEC authorities have praised the new [word indistinct] health system and the strict measures that have been adopted to combat the [word indistinct].

All this has improved Brazilian credibility abroad. The EEC has, therefore, renewed the Brazilian export quota for an indenifite period; that is, the access of Brazilian exports to the European market has been guaranteed. This is very important because Brazilian exports to the EEC total over $1 billion. [end recording]

Moreover, the agriculture minister was also able to eliminate the surtax on Brazilian poultry exports, one of

the main Brazilian agricultural exports which total 1 percent of the GDP. It is estimated that a total of 250,000 tons of poultry products will be exported this year; that is, a total of $400 million.

Minister Reports Economy at 'All-Time Low'

PY0406021291 Madrid EFE in English 1916 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Rafael Candanedo report]

[Text] Brasilia, June 3 (EFE)—The Brazilian Government admitted Monday [3 June] that the economy has reached an all-time low, but said there were some signs of recovery.

"The sharp fall in GDP shows that the economy of the country has reached the bottom of the pit," said Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira. But he said there were some hopes for slow improvement.

"The situation is not catastrophic because there are indications that the economy is starting to improve and that it is going to recover its growth," Marques Moreira said.

He said dramatic moves to kick-start economic growth in Brazil would not be appropriate. "Accelerated recuperation would not be good for stability at the moment. It will be a gradual recovery, from the bottom of the pit to the top," said the newly-appointed minister, who took over last month from Zelia Cardoso de Mello.

Brazil has now lost to Spain its position as the world's 10th economic power, after the Group of Seven industrialized nations, the Soviet Union and China. According to the World Bank, Brazil's GDP of dlrs 358 billion was topped in 1990 by a Spanish GDP of dlrs 372 billion.

Wolfgang Sauer, former president of Autolatina—the joint multinational car giants Ford and Volkswagen in Latin America—said, "We're going to have to get used to repeated negative growth indicators in figures from the international financial institutions." During President Fernando Collor de Mello's first year in office following his inauguration in March 1990, Brazilian GDP fell by 6.87 per cent, its worst decline ever.

According to Marques Moreira, a lack of private foreign investment in recent years had impeded growth, kept costs high and reduced competitiveness in the international market. But the Central Bank reported last week that foreign investment soared during the first four months of this year, reaching levels three times higher than those of the same period in 1990. And in a bid to attract more funds from abroad, the government has come up with a plan to open its two stock markets in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro to foreign investors.

Economic Policy National Secretary Roberto Macedo predicted that the economy would slowly start to recover during the second quarter of 1991. "This crisis is not the fault of the current government," Macedo said, blaming shrinking GDP on an economy which had been "bogged down for 10 years."

The economy minister, meanwhile, described the prices of some goods in Brazil, where they often reach levels higher than those in the more prosperous United States, as absurd. "The cost of certain products in this country, such as cars and clothes, is an absurdity," Marques Moreira said. He said he had been involved in a comparative study last year between prices in Brazil and the United States which had shown many retail prices to be 150 per cent higher in Brazil.

The Economy Ministry continued Monday negotiations with the Brazilian automobile industry which wants to raise the price of cars. "The automobile industry is dreaming if it thinks it's going to be able to bump up its prices by 35 per cent," said Marques Moreira, who has put a seven per cent ceiling on retail value increases in the sector.

Last month, shortly after taking up the economy portfolio, Marques Moreira ended a controversial four-month price freeze on almost 200 products, including milk and bread, imposed by his predecessor in an attempt to put a lid on soaring inflation. The price controls resulted in a fall in inflation from a monthly 20 percent in February to around seven per cent in April, but industrialists protested that it was ruining their business. When Collor took office, inflation stood at an annual rate of 2,750 per cent and increasingly desperate attempts to control it through a series of drastic economic austerity plans have been the most harshly criticized aspects of his administration to date.

Central Bank Reports Release of Impounded Money

PY0506032691 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 May 91 p 3

[Text] Court orders are responsible for the largest portion of new cruzados released by Central Bank (BC) in April. The new cruzados were impounded under the economic policy adopted by the Collor government when it came to power in March 1990. Of the 33.1 billion new cruzados released, the BC converted 26.256 billion into cruzeiros on court orders—that is, 79.32 percent of the total conversions—in April.

According to information from the BC Economic Department (Depec), total conversions of new cruzados through 30 April amounted to 6.172 trillion cruzeiros, in corrected value. The largest number was released for payment of federal taxes: 2.775 trillion cruzeiros.

In April, the BC released 6.576 billion cruzeiros to senior citizens above 65. The total released up to 30 April for this reason was 190.346 billion. So far this year 211.9 billion cruzeiros have been converted for senior citizens above 65, judicial depos'ts, and on court orders.

The second largest new cruzados release "spigot" was opened for the payment of state taxes and resulted in the conversion of 899.1 billion cruzeiros, in corrected value, up to 30 April. Retirees and pensioners converted another 791 billion cruzeiros.

The largest volume released on court orders was in March—48.118 billion cruzeiros. Up to 30 April, 54.664 billion cruzeiros, in corrected value, were released on court orders. During the first 15 days of May, another 27.571 billion cruzeiros were converted and released on court orders.

The return of new cruzados impounded by the government in March 1990 should begin this September. Court action is the only alternative for an early return. On 15 May, the balance of new cruzados still retained at the BC was 7.4 trillion, which represents 55 percent of the total impounded in March 1990.

Stock Exchange Opened to Foreign Capital

PY3105223891 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 May 91 p 25

[Excerpts] Two facts were mainly responsible for the record volume on the stock market yesterday. One was the National Monetary Council (CMN) authorization for the direct entrance of foreign capital via the stock market, and the other was the confirmation of the USIMINAS [Minas Gerais Iron and Steel Mills, Inc] privatization via auction next September. [passage omitted]

Francisco Souza Dantas, president of Rio de Janeiro Stock Exchange, said that the opening of the Brazilian stock exchange to foreign investors is comparable to the opening of the country's ports in 1810, because it will make Brazil attractive to the economies of the First World and mark an important step toward the resumption of economic growth. Nevertheless, he believes that the bullish trend on the stock exchange is not definite yet because the economy still needs some corrections, such as bringing inflation under definitive control. [passage omitted]

Chile

General Pinochet Briefs Aylwin on Trip Abroad

PY0406162491 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin has met with General Augusto Pinochet, Army commander in chief, at the presidential office. The meeting lasted about one hour, but no information has been released. It has been learned that the president and the Army commander analyzed Gen. Pinochet's recent trip to Brazil, Portugal, and Great Britain.

The Army commander in chief reportedly submitted a comprehensive report on his activities in those countries.

Government Called Upon 'To Curtail' Arms Race

PY0306210591 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] The Chilean Committee for Disarmament and Denuclearization has charged that Chile is promoting an arms race in Latin America. (Manuel Horacio Diaz), the executive director of the committee, has said that this conclusion can be drawn from the conduct and statements of Defense Minister Patricio Rojas, General Augusto Pinochet, and several generals linked with Famae [Army Ordnance].

He stressed: We view with concern the remarks they have made and the display of new military equipment built in Chile by Famae, especially when the promotion of an arms buildup and of military contracts with foreign countries contradicts the spirit and original program of the government.

The Chilean Committee for Disarmament and Denuclearization has said that the way Chilean authorities exhibit new arms, like the Lightning Rocket, is a provocation against neighboring countries which are clearly in a process of disarmament.

This aggressive conduct by the democratic government is causing alarm and rejection in Peru, Bolivia, and Argentina, he said.

The committee called on the government to curtail this arms race, which jeopardizes the Chilean image, and to propose a disarmament policy that will reduce military spending.

Army Ordnance Displays Joint-Venture Weapons

PY3005165191 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2347 GMT 29 May 91

[Text] The Army Ordnance, FAMAE, today showed the projects it is preparing together with other countries, including the Lightning Rocket [cohete rayo]. The objective of the trip of Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet was to learn details of current agreements. This was reported by General Fernando Hormazabal, director of the Military Industries, and FAMAE director General Guillermo Letelier who accompanied Gen. Pinochet on his recent trip abroad.

The military showed the armored combat car that is being manufactured together with a Swiss company and that can be used to transport troops or be converted into a tank. The military also showed an armored police vehicle and a 22-ton light tank.

They also explained that the Lightning Rocket, which is being developed by FAMAE and a British company, is a medium-range rocket that can carry a conventional warhead or cluster bombs.

[Begin Gen. Letelier recording] The Lightning Rocket project is not the most important project [words indistinct] foreign [word indistinct]. It is the most well-known

project. It is important because it is a weapon system that has been recently announced on the international market. It is the FAMAE's first joint project with the Royal Ordnance. It will allow us to place a weapons system on the market at a low price and a high ballistic capability. [end recording]

The FAMAE is also developing a submachine gun that is currently considered the best in the world. It shoots in three different ways [as heard] and has in the past few months complied with all European quality demands.

Generals Letelier and Hormazabal stressed that Chile is not in the arms race. They said that they merely seek to optimize the resources of this industry which also represents an income for Chile since the products that are being developed may be sold abroad.

Details on Country's Weapons Industry Reported

PY3105172591 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] The arms embargo implemented against the Chilean military regime by foreign powers forced our Armed Forces to begin producing their own weapons. This is why companies like Cardoen and FAMAE [Army Ordnance] became producers and exporters. Following the installation of the democratic government, those countries lifted the embargo but Chilean factories continued to export nontraditional weapons. We have the following report by journalist Francisco Contreras.

[Begin Contreras recording] Every day we learn of new products and services that the country exports. We export garlic and, in case you did not know, we also export spiders. The Chilean Air Force has been asked by the United Nations, for the first time, to send personnel and helicopters to the demilitarized zone in the Persian Gulf to join a UN peace-keeping force. Carabineros personnel will go to the Sahara, also at the request of the United Nations, to help supervise a plebiscite. We have another line of exports that is much more controversial; arms.

The Army and the other Armed Forces branches entered this field a long time ago. The results were very positive for the institution because of the restrictions imposed by the Kennedy Amendment.

General Augusto Pinochet's visit to the United Kingdom, for instance, was short but very useful. The Lightning Rocket project was the central issue. We will talk about it now because the bulk of this report is on Army Ordnance, FAMAE, which has become a real industry, producing and trading materiel.

Brigadier General Fernando Hormazabal, commander of the Military and Engineer Command, is quick to reject any possible involvement of Chile in the arms race. FAMAE was created in 1811. It is perhaps the oldest military industry in Latin America. Its current director is Brigadier General Guillermo Letelier. Letelier said that FAMAE's top priority is to prepare, within a decade, for its third century of activity. FAMAE today seeks to accept the challenges of the world defense market.

FAMAE is following the path of other large military industries. It is not interested in a subsidized growth but prefers to join other arms industries in joint projects. This is being done by FAMAE today and, according to Letelier, this policy has placed it among the large world producers.

What is FAMAE producing today? The Lightning Rocket project, about which you, dear listeners, have probably heard, is one of its programs. The project is being developed with the Royal Ordnance of England. Its purpose is to produce a medium-range tactical rocket with a range of approximately 40 km. This rocket will carry a conventional explosive payload or the well-known and controversial cluster bomb. The rocket will be tested this year at the Atacama desert.

Another Famae project is being developed with the Swiss firm Mowag [Mowag Motorwagenfabrik AG]. This project involves the development of an armored vehicle like the one the Army uses today for military transport. It will be capable of carrying, for example, a 90-millimeter cannon. The Mowag car, which will be known as the Pirana, is a 8x8 amphibious vehicle, that is, it can float on water. It will be totally armored and capable of carrying 3,500 kg, thanks to its eight wheels. This is why it is called 8x8.

Famae is also developing a 9-millimeter light submachine gun that has already been internationally accepted. It can fire between 1,300 to 1,400 rounds per minute in three ways: single shot, three- shot bursts, or continuous fire. It is said to be the best in the world of its kind. It was designed to be used by police to fight terrorism and to be used in cities.

We could go on; the topic is controversial which is why journalists have asked about the possibility that Chile is involved in the arms race. The question was put, during a visit to the FAMAE installations, to General Hormazabal who dismissed the possibility, asserting that FAMAE is optimizing its resources. We have, he said, available industrial capacity that is being used.

FAMAE Director Guillermo Letelier said that FAMAE is a business that produces, sells, and creates jobs, and that it could become an important source of income for the country. This, dear listeners, is the information that we journalists gleaned when we visited the FAMAE installations. We would like to add your comments to the answers we received from high-ranking officers on this controversial issue. We have only given you a report. This was Francisco Contreras. [end recording]

Labor Representative Says 8,000 Workers on Strike

PY0406032891 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] Miguel Gonzalez, Central Labor Union (CUT) representative, has reported that some 8,000 workers are currently on legal strike throughout the country. He said this decision was adopted because of businessmen's attitudes toward collective bargaining, especially in the mining, metallurgical, and textile sectors.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The businessmen's attitudes force the workers to fight. Because of the failure of collective bargaining, more workers are joining the strike. At this moment, we have verified that some 8,000 workers are on legal strike in Chile, from Arica to Magallanes. The strike primarily affects the metallurgical and textile sectors.

The CUT has called for further negotiations—namely, with (Ramas)—involving the Nestle workers federation. Negotiations are being carried out with other federations, but there are 12 unions on strike today. [end recording]

Gonzalez added that, in addition to the struggle for a minimum wage, they are also fighting for a just salary; furthermore, that in all collective bargainings, they are demanding an adjustment of the salary above the IPC [Consumer Price Index]. The workers are demanding what has been promised to them; what is clear to everyone is that the country's economic situation favors businessmen and they can increase salaries, Gonzalez said.

Recalling that some 500,000 workers must engage in collective bargaining this year, the CUT leader mentioned the main companies with labor conflicts: the Nestle enterprise, where some 1,000 workers are on strike; the Andina Bottling company, where some 400 workers are on strike; the (Seven) factory, on the road to Maipu, where 83 workers are on strike; and the National Food Industry where 122 workers are on strike.

Carabineros Deputy Commander Comments on Arrests

PY0406224191 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] Carabineros Deputy Director General Gabriel Ormeno has confirmed that some people were arrested during the raids on 1 June at (Los Quillalles), in La Granja District.

[Begin recording] [Ormeno] Some people have been arrested. Their cases are under investigation. We have asked for reports from the courts. Once we have it all we (?will provide the information).

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Guzman?

[Ormeno] There is a bit of everything. I cannot give you any information because the issues are under investigation. [end recording]

The high-ranking Carabinero officer added that the Carabineros are working jointly with the judges and special judges who are investigating the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], the Lautaro Youth Movement, and the killing of UDI [Democratic Independent Union] Senator Jaime Guzman, to establish any ties or involvement of those arrested in these terrorist actions.

Regarding the guns found in the operation carried out by Carabineros intelligence personnel in the (Los Quillalles) shantytown, Gen. Ormeno said that almost all the guns that were found, particularly the M-16 rifles, were smuggled into the country through Carrizal Bajo.

Moreover, police sources have reported that seven of those arrested are allegedly involved with the FPMR and some of them are also allegedly involved in the Guzman assassination. Three of them have been identified. They are Jorge Burgos Cabezas, Alfredo Marchand Figueroa, and Marcelo Navarrete Llanquiman.

Ormeno also responded to the criticism that followed the Carabineros action against FPMR demonstrators at the former public jail building on 1 June.

[Begin Ormeno recording] Sometimes only partial reports are issued. When a full report is not given, the Carabineros are blamed for the incidents.

A series of events precedes the direct involvement of the Carabineros in any incident. The Carabineros do not become involved until the last stage of the incident, which is the worst part because sometimes we have to restore order by force. Unfortunately someone has to do it. [end recording]

Ormeno also reported that the Carabineros will sue HOY magazine over an article entitled: How to spend $10 million without dying. This article is about how the Carabineros spent extraordinary sums of money to combat crime.

Colombia

Government, Guerrillas Prepare for Peace Talks

PA0306041591

[Editorial Report] At 0100 GMT on 3 June, Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2's "Cripton" newscast in Spanish broadcast three brief reports spanning a seven-minute period concerning the peace talks between the Colombian Government and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board, CNGSB, which are scheduled to take place in Caracas, Venezuela on 3 June.

The first of these reports is by correspondent Jorge Alfredo Vargas, who is in Caracas. It states that on 2 June members of the CNGSB announced the possibility of establishing a bilateral cease-fire, and they also

referred to the current situation of the individuals they have kidnapped, but provided no details as to their current condition.

In reference to this issue, presidential adviser Jesus Bejarano said: "The government utilizes the cease-hostilities concept, which is broader than the cease-fire concept because it does not only pertain to military actions; it includes kidnapping, extortion, and all guerrilla activities."

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, delegate Pablo Catatumbo said: "If the government stops the operations that are being conducted against the FARC's National Secretariat and guerrilla fronts, the country can rest assured that the guerrilla fronts will not defend their camps and other facilities."

The second report features an interview with FARC Commander Alfonso Cano by correspondent Jorge Alfredo Vargas. In response to a question from Vargas, Cano said: "We have no personal aspirations. We wish nothing as an organization. We do not want cars, scholarships, or that type of patronage. We do not aspire to much. Perhaps political representation at any given time. We aspire—in a negotiations process like the one that is about to begin—to broach the most profound problems of Colombian society." Cano said also that the guerrillas are optimistic as regards the upcoming talks.

The third report indicates that Government Minister Humberto de la Calle Lombana has arrived in Caracas with delegations from the Advisory Board for Peace Issues and the National Constituent Assembly. Prior to his departure, De la Calle told reporter Azucena Lievano that: "There have been positive elements of detente. All of these gestures must be welcomed and brought to the public's attention. I hope that they will translate into a favorable climate for the talks."

Meanwhile, Paris AFP in Spanish at 2331 GMT on 2 June reported that CNGSB members in Caracas on 2 June had underscored the Colombian Army's role in the achievement of a cease-fire. According to AFP, FARC Commander Cano said at a news conference that "it is necessary to examine the Army's functions in relation to building democracy in Colombia, keeping in mind that it is an underdeveloped country." Cano called for the solution of the problems which generated the guerrilla movement and expressed a desire for a complete end of hostilities.

AFP reports that, according to the guerrillas, the main topics on the agenda are the Armed Forces, the ending of hostilities, and various economic and social issues.

Rebels, Officials Comment

PA0406181291 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Report by Martin Pacheco; passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] The peace talks between the Colombian Government and rebels, which are aimed at attaining peace in that troubled nation, continue today here in Caracas.

Some 40 years of confrontation, contradiction, and clashes could come to an end if a solution to the Colombian conflict is found here. More than 8,000 rifles would be silenced and more than 8,000 men currently in the Colombian mountains would lay down their weapons to become a political force.

In separate news conferences, government and guerrilla representatives expressed their willingness to reach specific agreements. Colombian Government Minister Humberto De la Calle Lombana said that the government is ready to discuss whatever topic becomes necessary.

[De la Calle] "We want to attain a serious and verifiable cease-fire within the framework of the peace process. This cease-fire, under conditions that would have to be negotiated, will become one of the elements that will lead to total peace."

[Jesus Antonio Bejarano, presidential adviser for peace] "It is possible to offer the guerrillas some guarantees after their return into civilian life. At the same time, the rebels' return to civilian life will lead to a reduction in the causes of violence, which could eventually conspire against the results of their return to civilian life."

Later, 11 commanders of the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] answered reporters' questions. Of the 11 CNGSB commanders, seven are members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC], two are from the Army of National Liberation [ELN], and two are from the Popular Liberation Army [EPL]. The rebel commanders answered more than 60 questions. Commander Francisco Galan, member of the ELN, was the official spokesman of the CNGSB.

[Francisco Galan] "The hostilities have been caused by the conditions of inequality and poverty that exist in the country. In the sense that we address this issue and reach political, economic and other agreements, we will be able to speak about a real opportunity for attaining peace.

[Asdrubal Jimenez, EPL commander] "As an armed insurgent force, we can contribute to the attainment of peace by expressing our desire for it, and, the government must work to achieve the same goal as the state, which is responsible for the life of the country and its citizens.

[Pablo Catatumbo, FARC commander] "We do not rule out the possibility of holding a high-level meeting between the highest commanders of the CNGSB and the government. I would not rule out this possibility, but I cannot say for certain that this meeting will in fact take place."

The only woman who is attending this important meeting is Lucia Gonzalez, whose entry, along with Daniel Aldana and Miguel Suarez, into the Venezuelan Embassy in Bogota triggered this Caracas conference.

[Pacheco] "What kind of weapon can you handle?

[Gonzalez, ELN reporter] "I can handle all sorts of weapons, just as any man or woman who is participating in this struggle. I would say that the main weapon [changes thought].... The weapon is an option, but I would say that the main weapon of all men who choose this path is knowing why we are here carrying out this struggle."

The peace talks between the Colombian Government and the guerrillas began amid great expectation from Colombia, Venezuela, Latin America, and the entire world. Over the next few days there will be discussions that could lead to the attainment of peace in Colombia.

Quintin Lame Rebels Sign Peace Agreement

PA0206025991 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] The government and the pro-Indian Quintin Lame guerrilla group signed a peace agreement today in which 140 men committed themselves to disarm and demobilize. Early this morning they turned in their rifles and burned their uniforms. They will now join civilian and political life.

Some 16 years of armed struggle, in which several of their leaders were killed fighting for the rights of the Indian movement and the [word indistinct] areas, ended today with the signing of a peace agreement after 11 months of dialogue with the national government.

The Quintin Lame Commando Unit began its activities in 1975 as an Indian self-defense group and became a guerrilla movement in 1984 following the death of Priest [name indistinct]. This rebel group, however, also realized that dialogue is the first step toward attaining their objectives.

A group of international observers, the World Council of Indian Peoples based in Canada, the Congregation of Evangelical Churches, and peace counselor Jesus Antonio Bejarano representing Colombia, acted as mediators and today witnessed the signing of the agreement.

This process, which will benefit 150 men who will be added to the 3,200 who have already demobilized, is different because, in addition to political guarantees, it offers funds for 15 municipalities in Cauca Department. In these areas, community development projects will be implemented with an initial allotment of 75,000 pesos per month during the first six months of the rebels' return to civilian life.

The weapons turned over by the Quintin Lame rebels will be smelted this afternoon at the Western Iron and Steal Company in Cali.

Mayor Denies Rumors of Escobar Surrender

PA0406040391 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Interview with Envigado Mayor Jose Mario Rodriguez by Javier Velasquez in Medellin on 3 June—recorded]

[Text] [Velasquez] Good evening. The report we heard today has all the Colombian people waiting for more information. This is why we have decided to talk with the mayor of Envigado, Dr. Jose Mario Rodriguez, who will most likely be the first person in Colombia to know when Pablo Escobar surrenders.

Mr. Mayor, you must make the arrangements to lodge Pablo Escobar. Is it true that he surrendered today and that his surrender is being kept a secret to be announced at a later date?

[Rodriguez] Javier, that report is not true. As the highest authority of the municipality, I must be told when he surrenders and I have heard nothing of this. Furthermore, the center where he is going to be held is not ready. The work has not been completed and the government's measures to ensure Escobar's safety have yet to be implemented.

[Velasquez] Then we can tell the Colombian people that there is no one in the jail tonight?

[Rodriguez] None of the workers are there.

[Velasquez] This means that Pablo Escobar has not surrendered.

[Unidentified station announcer] I would like to ask the mayor a question. How is the work at the jail coming along and how will the drug trafficker be taken there?

[Rodriguez] The work is coming along nicely. I believe that according the government specifications the work should be completed in the next eight to 10 days. Regarding the second part of your question, that will be up to the government. As mayor of Envigado, I still do not know how the surrender will take place.

[Velasquez] Mayor Rodriguez, a little while ago we heard statements by Father Rafael Garcia Herreros. He said that approximately 100 men will surrender. [as heard] Can you lodge 100 persons at the drug rehabilitation center you are building in Medellin?

[Rodriguez] Not as many as 100, but we will be able to handle approximately 70 or 80 people.

[Velasquez] Will the center be used to house only The Extraditables who surrender with Pablo Escobar, or will it also be used as part of the drug rehabilitation program?

[Rodriguez] That will be decided by the government through the Justice Ministry and the National Prisons Directorate. I know nothing about this.

[Velasquez] Father Garcia Herreros is worried about what could happen. You live in Envigado and you see what is happening. Do you think that Pablo Escobar's surrender can take place without problems?

[Rodriguez] I think it can. I believe the Colombian Government is searching for peace in Colombia and will do all it can to make sure that Escobar surrenders soon.

[Velasquez] Dr. Rodriguez, thank you for your statements.

[Rodriguez] It was my pleasure.

Assembly Considers Limiting Congressional Terms

PA0406014491 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 May 91 p 1 A

[Text] Proposed articles in the congressmen's statute, which include limitations on the future congressmen and the conditions that would disqualify them from holding the office, will have to be revised as a result of criticism expressed at the Constituent Assembly plenum yesterday.

One of the points of controversy was an article that prohibits parliamentarians from being elected for more than three terms. The proposal is so strong that it would include current congressmen. Were it to be approved, many incumbent parliamentarians, who have been in Congress for more than three terms, could not run in the next election.

In addition, profound changes in international relations were approved during last night's session. All Colombians who have become citizens of other countries will retain their native citizenship. The members of all Indian communities living on the border with neighboring countries will be recognized as Colombian citizens.

Paraguay

Colorado Party Proposes 'Special Convention'

PY0406154491 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 1 Jun 91 p 3

[Text] A proposal by the autonomous faction of the National Republican Association (ANR) [Colorado Party] to hold a special party convention on 14 July 1991 has been accepted by a majority of the party executive board, which met for four hours yesterday, continuing the closed session which began on 29 May. All of the issues on the agenda have still not been discussed, so the meeting will continue today and tomorrow.

The agenda approved for the special convention is as follows: 1) to change and adjust party statutes to the new electoral code; 2) to establish a date for party members to hold direct elections throughout the entire country to determine a new party executive board; 3) to establish a date for direct elections to name new officials in all party precincts in the country; and 4) to establish a date to call for internal elections to choose candidates for the constitutional conventions, while avoiding an overlap in the elections of party leaders and constitutional convention delegates.

ANR President Luis Maria Argana is the one who made the proposal for a special party convention on 14 July, arguing that it is urgent that the party executive board project an image of democracy and authority. He pointed out that direct elections will enable the new party executive board to be "a genuine representative of popular sovereignty, without the top party leadership making deals, a method party members reject."

At yesterday's meeting, the Executive Board also evaluated the 25 May municipal elections in which the Colorado Party was defeated in Asuncion and many other cities. The board also studied how the party can help its candidates in the more than 30 municipal elections which are still to be held.

Juan Carlos Galaverna, representing the Democratic Alliance faction, proposed the "advisability" of the top leadership resigning due to the poor results of the recent municipal elections. The proposal did not develop because the "autonomous" faction issued a motion stating that the proposal was not on the agenda. Galaverna questioned the attitude of Juan Roque Galeano on this issue. Waldino Ramon Lovera became angry and left the session because Galaverna's proposal was not allowed to be heard. Lovera said upon departing, that the debate was cut off in the old steamroller style.

Edgar L. Ynsfran had to preside over the session when Argana submitted the proposal for a special party convention.

Colorado Party Faction Splits During Convention

PY0506015491 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 2 Jun 91 p 4

[Excerpt] There was yet another split within Mopoco [Colorado Popular Movement] yesterday when a group headed by Miguel Gonzalez Casabianca, Sandino Gil Oporto, and Juan Carlos Galaverna decided to leave the Mopoco political leadership.

The split occurred at a convention during which Waldino Ramon Lovera was elected the new Mopoco coordinator general. The convention was held in Colorado Precinct No. 1 in Trinidad District.

Some 200 conventioneers from various parts of the country participated in the debates, which were presided over by Lovera. In view of disagreements over the creation of a single list of candidates, there were several intermissions before an agreement was finally reached.

The new Mopoco coordinating board was expanded to 35 members and 15 alternate members. This board will be in office for one year and then hold another convention. [passage omitted]

Colorado Party Factions Merge, Military Approves

PY0506014291 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 1 Jun 91 p 3

[Text] As has been announced, the Angel Roberto Seifart-led Orthodox Renovators faction [of the Colorado Traditionalist Movement] merged with the Blas N. Riquelme-led Democratic Traditionalism (Tradem) faction. The final agreement was reached by top leaders from both groups during a 30 May meeting at the Union

Club. The new group will be called "Democratic and Renovator Traditionalism" [Tradicionalismo Renovador y Democratico] and will be led by Seifart.

According to the information released, the merger was arranged on the basis of an agreement under which each faction will designate half of the members of the ticket that the new movement will sponsor for the Colorado Party executive board. On the ticket, Seifart will run for president, while Riquelme will run for first vice president. An Orthodox Renovator will run for second vice president and Juan Ernesto Villamayor will run for third vice president.

The two factions will also split political secretariats and other executive board positions; that is, each faction will designate half of the ticket members.

In another decision made by Seifart, Ruben O. Fanego, Eugenio Sanabria Cantero, Carlos Podesta, and Juan Ernesto Villamayor at the Union Club, convention delegates from both factions will be summoned to the "Los Alamos" farm next week to receive information on details of the merger.

Some political observers have said that a major factor in the merger was the opinion of high-ranking military commanders and of General Andres Rodriguez himself, who reportedly gave their approval and blessing to the move.

Seifart and Fanego met yesterday with more than 60 rank-and-file leaders from throughout the country to whom they explained the terms of the merger. The meeting, which lasted more than four hours, was held at Seifart's headquarters. Seifart and Fanego outlined the details that led to the merger with the Riquelme faction. A negative point at the meeting was Deputy Ruben Fanego's attitude toward journalists, whom he mistreated for trying to get photographs of the meeting. Dr. Seifart was also impolite because he delayed releasing information about the meeting to the press.

Electoral Board Releases Official Results

PY0406190691 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Jun 91 p 1

[Text] On 3 June, eight days after the 26 May municipal elections, the Central Electoral Board [JEC] released the official results. The victory of Dr. Carlos Filizzola, with 34 percent of the vote, has therefore been made official, and he will be the first elected mayor of Asuncion. According to the JEC figures, the Colorado Party received 27 percent of the vote; the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, 20 percent; the Febrerista Revolutionary Party, 10 percent; Guillermo Hellmers [independent candidate], 4.4 percent; and all other candidates combined, 1.5 percent. Blank and void ballots totaled 2.9 percent. The JEC figures also show that there was a massive turnout of eligible voters; 83.46 percent cast ballots for mayor and 82.61 percent for councilmen. Elections were held in 175 of 206 municipal districts. It has been reported that elections will be held in the remaining 31 towns on 23 June. The JEC has already released the vote count for 154 towns, including Asuncion, but it has still not released the results from the other 21.

Correction to Official Views Election Results

PY3005192991

The following correction pertains to the item headlined, "Colorado Party Official Views Election Results," published in the 30 May Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 39:

Column one, fifth paragraph, second sentence, make read: ...there were many fewer voters than in... (replacing "more" with "fewer.)

Peru

More on Arrest of Important MRTA Leaders

PY0406123691 Lima RTP Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Excerpt] Investigations into the terrorists arrested in Pueblo Libre District are being conducted in complete secrecy. A police spokesman has reported, however, that more terrorists have been arrested through the use of information in documents found inside the house raided by police in Pueblo Libre.

When the interrogation of the members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] will take place, has still not been set. This information was released at the Technical Police Public Relations Department. We were told that all investigations must be exhausted before the Dircote [Counterterrorism Division] and the General Directorate [not further identified] will authorize a news conference.

We have also been told that the exact number of arrested terrorists cannot be disclosed because the latest investigations are effectively leading to the arrest of other individuals who, in one way or another, had something to do with the house on Santa Marta Street in Pueblo Libre. [passage omitted]

Minister Apologizes for Police Attack on Deputies

PY0506000691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0151 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Lima, 31 May (EFE)—Peruvian Interior Minister General Victor Malca apologized today to the Chamber of Deputies for a police attack on three leftist congressmen during a demonstration staged by striking public school teachers.

Malca appeared before a Chamber of Deputies plenum, which had summoned him regarding events that took place on 30 May in Lima's main square during police repression of a teachers march. The teachers were trying

to reach Government Palace. They were accompanied by Cesar Barrera, Bernardo Dolmos, and Dacio Maldonado, deputies of the "United Left" coalition.

According to the minister's report, 32 people were detained and three policemen were injured. It is not known if any of the demonstrators were injured, although some media reported that at least five were injured.

Security forces today broke up several demonstrations by teachers, who have been on strike for 24 days demanding salary increases.

Jose Ramos, secretary general of the Trade Union of Education Workers (SUTEP), to which 260,000 teachers belong, announced today that SUTEP has asked the [Catholic] church to mediate in an effort to have the conflict settled by having their salaries—which average $50 a month—increased. The teachers are asking for an 800-percent salary increase. The church and Congress recently favored salary increases for teachers and health workers. Health workers have been on strike for 10 weeks.

Institute Says Terrorism Most Prevalent in Lima

PY0406232091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1729 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Lima, 1 Jun (EFE)—According to a report released by the National Defense Research Institute [Instituto de Investigacion de la Defensa Nacional, Iniden], Lima is the Peruvian city most affected by terrorism. April, with 187 deaths, was the most violent month of 1991.

According to the report compiled with the support of the Senate Pacification Committee, which constantly evaluates political violence in Peru and its causes, more terrorists are being killed and there are less civilian casualties. The Senate committee estimates that during 11 years of terrorist activities in Peru, 22,221 people have been killed and material losses, especially power pylons, have reached $18 billion.

According to Iniden, during April there were 156 terrorist actions in comparison with 93 in January, 147 in February, and 87 in March. During the first four months of 1991, there were 4.04 daily armed actions while, during the same period in 1990, the average was 6.61. Out of the 156 terrorist actions in April 1991, 74 percent were perpetrated by the Shining Path, 15 percent by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), and 11 percent by unidentified groups.

Lima continues to be the most heavily punished area, especially by the Shining Path, which attacked banks, diplomatic facilities, hospitals, military garrisons, and offices belonging to the government party, Change 90. Shining Path actions against power pylons in April reduced electricity in Lima by 10 percent and water supply by 40 percent.

The April death figures are 102 subversives, 64 civilians, and 21 policemen. Approximately 50 percent of Peru's territory and 60 percent of its population of 22 million people are under a state of emergency.

Both the Shining Path and the MRTA continued their activities in May. The most spectacular MRTA action was an attack on four towns in northern San Martin Department and the kidnapping of nine policemen on the night of 10 May in La Rioja. The policemen are still being held hostage because the government refuses to negotiate with the subversives and will not accept the MRTA request to have the Red Cross negotiate their release.

During May, the Shining Path chose to commit selective murder. On 17 May, this group attacked members of "World Vision," killing Canadian Norman Tartersall and seriously wounding Colombian Jose Chuquin. On 21 May, Shining Path subversives attacked Huasahuasi in Peru's central mountain range and murdered Australian nun Irene MacCormack and four other people. She was the second nun to be murdered by the Shining Path. On 23 May, Shining Path subversives also murdered Paul Juan Poblet Lindl, mayor of Pachacamac, which is near Lima. He was machine gunned and then blown up with explosives.

In the meantime, the Peruvian Government has decided to purge Shining Path and MRTA members from three universities in Lima: San Marcos, which just celebrated its 440th anniversary; La Cantuta; and National Engineering University, which are considered the real nests of terrorism.

Minister Says Policemen Removed for Corruption

PY0506154491 Lima RTP Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 5 Jun 91

[Text] After a 30-minute meeting with the Amazon Integration Commission, Interior Minister Victor Malca Villanueva said that, as part of a thorough moralization campaign within the national police, 500 national policemen have been removed.

[Begin recording] [Malca] We are issuing a number of resolutions. Especially, we are meting out applying exemplary punishment, but always as a consequence of a fair investigation.

[Reporter] So far this year, how many policemen have been removed as a result of these immoralities?

[Malca] Well, I do not have accurate data on how many have been removed for being immoral, but about 500 policemen have been removed for several reasons, mainly for immorality. [end recording]

Teachers, Health Sector Demonstrate in Lima

PY0506001491 Lima RTP Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 4 Jun 91

[Text] Teachers and health sector workers again took to the streets to cause their usual incidents, and police took severe measures to disperse the demonstrators.

Teachers—members of SUTEP [Trade Union of Education Workers]—were causing disorder in downtown Lima. They were on Abancay Avenue, a few blocks from the Congress building. National Police personnel tried to prevent the demonstrators from moving toward Congress. Police action and water cannons made the strikers quickly disperse.

Child Trafficking, Adoption Irregularities Noted

PY0106231491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2031 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] Lima, 31 May (EFE)—Fermin Chunga Lamonja, chairman of the commission in charge of reviewing the new Peruvian Minor's Code, said today that the largest number of Peruvian children are adopted by childless U.S. couples.

According to Chunga Lamonja, a study carried out by Attorney General Adelaine Bolivar notes that 40 percent of all adoptions are made by U.S. couples.

Chunga Lamonja added that U.S. agencies that seek Latin American children for adoption have in one clause of their contracts that "in case of the minor's death in the course of adoption, the child will be replaced by another."

In remarks to the Lima daily UNIVERSAL, Chunga Lamonja said that the commission he heads has asked for the suspension of all current adoption transactions until the new Minor's Code is in effect.

Of the 505 adoptions carried out in 1989 in Lima, 381 were by foreigners, who have more resources than Peruvians because "transactions are faster when paid for in dollars."

In the Lima port of Callao, of 400 adoptions, 10 were by Peruvians and the rest by foreigners.

In the adoption of children, the United States is followed by Italy with 12 percent; France with 9.7 percent; Canada with 6 percent; and other nations with a lower percentage.

According to Chunga Lamonja, these figures are evidence of child trafficking and evidence that the children are sold by families who are in extreme poverty.

According to the statistics, 70 percent of five-year-olds live in homes that have an income less than $15 per capita [time period not given], and 5 million live in absolute poverty.

The National Institute for Family Welfare [Instituto Nacional de Bienestar Familiar] (Inabif) recently reported that there are mothers who sell their children before they are born, and others who become pregnant with the sole purpose of selling their children.

The figures cited for such a deal vary a lot, ranging between $1,000 and $10,000 or $12,000 per child.

Moreover, Sister Edith Fernandez, Inabif regional director in Arequipa, reported yesterday the irregular participation of some provincial judges and some alleged social institutions in negotiating adoptions by "alleged foreign couples."

Sister Fernandez said that after leaving Peru, nothing is ever heard of the children because their adopted parents rarely send news of the child. Neither is information received from the consulates or the international police (Interpol).

She added that some unwed, abandoned, or widowed mothers sell their children with the hope of giving their children a better life.

Guyana

Parliament Approves Election Reform Legislation

FL3005131891 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 30 May 91

[Text] Guyana's parliament has approved legislation to reform the electoral process. It will expand the Elections Commission under the direction of a newly-appointed Commission chairman. Those measures were already agreed upon by President Desmond Hoyte after opposition pressure.

Government Invites Nationwide Election Observers

FL3105172291 Bridgetown CANA in English 1553 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 31, CANA—The Atlanta-based Carter Centre will deploy observers countrywide, including outlying hinterland areas, to monitor voting at Guyana elections due by yearend, a centre logistics officer said here.

"We will be looking to place them in what we believe to be the most critical areas for observation, but we will most certainly have observers in all interior regions," Logistics Coordinator Dennis King told CANA.

King said the organisation, one of two invited by the government of President Desmond Hoyte to observe the elections, is still to decide how many observers it can afford to send to Guyana.

Hoyte invited the centre and the Commowealth Secretariat to mount observer missions after persistent opposition accusations of irregularities in past polls. The

Carter Centre also plans to set up an office here two to three months prior to the elections.

King said the office will most likely remain open until the winning presidential candidate is installed, but this will depend on how quickly the inauguration is held.

The centre also expects to send another high level delegation to continue the monitoring process sometime between next Friday and the opening of the office, for which no date has been set.

King held talks this week with the opposition party grouping - Patriotic Coalition for Democracy (PCD) - and government and elections officials but declined to disclose details of the discussions.

The centre is interested in hearing the view of all the parties on the registration process and the post-registration period, King told CANA.

The parties were able to give opinions and provide the centre official with preliminary estimates of the registered voting population, he added.

Voter registration ended May 17 and an election date is to be announced soon after the compilation of a preliminary voters' list is completed.

National Assembly Extends Session to 2 Aug

FL0306215491 Bridgetown CANA in English 2013 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 3, CANA—Guyana's parliament entered a third two-month extension Monday to allow continuing work on a preliminary voters' list for general elections due by yearend. Legislation introduced to facilitate the first extension, from February 2, provides that parliament can be extended only up to September 30, in effect allowing elections originally due earlier this year to be posponed as late as December.

Constitutionally, the National Assembly should have been dissolved on February 2 to pave the way for elections not later than May 2. A faulty preliminary voters' list and later agreement by the President Desmond Hoyte administration and opposition parties that there should be fresh voter registration led to the government using its two-thirds parliamentary majority to approve a constitutional amendment for the extension.

The three opposition parties in parliament protested the extension, saying there was enough time to complete the registration and compilation process. They have since withdrawn from the National Assembly. The third extension is effective until August 2.

Health Cooperation Plan With Suriname Approved

FL0306160791 Bridgetown CANA in English 1751 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 1, CANA—Health officials of Guyana and neighbouring Suriname met at the eastern Guyana border town of Corriverton, and approved a six-month cooperation plan on a range of health matters, including defences against cholera.

Under the plan, the health officials of the two countries will pursue cooperation on a variety of topics discussed at the meeting this week, convened under the programme of the Guyana/Suriname Co- operation Council.

A common approach to prevent a possible spread of the current South American cholera outbreak to either or both of the countries was given prominent attention at the meeting.

The treatment of Guyanese cancer patients and training of dental nurses in Suriname, together with vector control, tuberculosis, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and sexually transmitted diseases generally were also discussed.

Guyana's team included chief medical officer Dr. Edward Sagala and officials from the Guyana Agency for Health Sciences Education, Environment, and Food Policy (GAHEF).

Suriname

Dutch Minister Denies Possible Military Action

FL0106133791 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1230 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers said his government will not intervene militarily in Suriname even if the newly-elected government is overthrown in a coup. Mr. Lubbers said in a television interview that a coup in Suriname would be a matter for the United Nations. Earlier in the week, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek said The Netherlands would consider intervening in such a case.

Netherlands Accused of Influencing Elections

PY0406024291 Paramaribo Radio Suriname International in English 1730 GMT 3 Jun 91

[Text] This government will do everything in the interest of the Republic of Suriname till the handing over of power to the new government. This was said by Vice President Jules Albert Wijdenbosch Saturday last [1 June] at a party of the NDP [National Democratic Party]. He was reacting to a letter from the New Front leader to President Johan Kraag in which it was suggested that the present government outgoing. [sentence as heard]

According to Vice President Wijdenbosch, this result is not yet official and the government doesn't have to listen to the front for it's not a state body. Wijdenbosch emphasized that the present government and their own cabinet [words indistinct].

The government has to listen to the organs which are qualified, said Wijdenbosch. Vice President Wijdenbosch pointed in this regard, to the request by the government some weeks ago, to explain its policy in the National Assembly, which was denied by the same people who make up the front.

Wijdenbosch finally said that he has to be concerned for a process of polarization is being developed by the arrogant attitude of the front leaders who are preparing to take over state power shortly. During his speech, Wijdenbosch pleaded for a period of tranquillity and stability in the country and warned everybody not to polarize.

The political leader of the National Democratic Party, NDP, Jules Albert Wijdenbosch has congratulated the Surinamese people for the breakthrough in Suriname's politics. Wijdenbosch, who spoke at a celebration party Saturday, said that the NDP gained political victory by the [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct] historic significance and they are not temporary said Wijdenbosch, who continued by saying that the NDP is the real national party which will stay on the scene of all the districts in the country. Only in one district no NDP representative was chosen. Surprisingly, all ethnic groups in the society chose NDP, said political leader of the NDP.

He further criticized the attitude of some observers who, according to his information, house to house [word indistinct] district who have advised the people not to vote on the NDP. He also criticized the behavior of Holland, which according to Wijdenbosch, tried to influence outcome of elections with the so- called Commonwealth Plan by indicating that it should resume the development cooperation during party elections.

Supporters of the NDP have shown strength said Wijdenbosch because it wasn't easy to maintain trust in the party while experiencing so much [word indistinct]. Finally, Wijdenbosch congratulated VHP [Progressive Reform Party] leader Lachmon with his election campaign because according to him, it was a struggle between the VHP and the NDP. The VHP has shown to be a respectable opponent in the election struggle, said NDP Leader Jules Wijdenbosch.